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A G E I N W H I C H S H E L I V E D .

Humanum est errare.

I N T W O V O L U M E S .

V O L . I I .

L O N D O N :
P R I N T E D F O R T . C A D E L L , I N T H E S T R A N D ,

M.DCC.LXXVI.

THE
HISTORY
OF
LADY ANNE NEVILLE,
SISTER TO THE
GREAT EARL OF WARWICK:
IN WHICH ARE INTERWED
MEMOIRS OF THAT NOBLEMAN.



PRINCIPAL CHIEFS
OF THE
AGE IN WHICH

IN TWO VOLUMES.
VOL. II.

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MDCCLXXV.

THE
HISTORY
OF
LADY ANNE NEVILLE.

YOUNG Edward, now in his twentieth Year, was of a Temper well fitted to make his Way through such a Scene of War and Havock, as must conduct him to the full Possession of his Crown. 'Tis true, his Claim was founded on hereditary Right, but he had assumed it in consequence of a tumultuous Election, and had still great Op-
VOL. II. B position

position to expect. He was bold, active, and enterprizing ; and his Hardness of Heart, and Severity of Character, rendered him impregnable to all those Movements of Compassion, which might relax his Vigour, in the Prosecution of the most bloody Revenge against his Enemies.

THE very Commencement of his Reign gave Symptoms of his sanguinary Disposition. The Scaffold as well as the Field, streamed incessantly with the noblest Blood of England, spilt in the Quarrel between the Two contending Families, whose Animosity was now become implacable.

THE

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THE Licentiousness in which Margaret was obliged to indulge her Troops, and their continual Depredations in Consequence, exasperated the City of London, and all the Southern Parts of the Kingdom : Expecting therefore a very obstinate Resistance, she prudently retired Northwards, amongst her own Partizans. The Success of those Troops, who returned from this Expedition loaded with Plunder, excited others to join them ; and she was able in a few Days, to assemble an Army Sixty Thousand strong.

EDWARD, and the Earl of Warwick, hastened with Forty Thousand Men to check her Progress.

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When

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When they arrived at Pontefract, they dispatched Lord Fitz-Walter with a Body of Troops, to secure the Passage of Ferrybridge over the River Ayre. This was effected; but on the Day before Palm-Sunday, early in the Morning, the Party that guarded it, were fallen upon by the furious Lord Clifford, and defeated. Lord Fitz-Walter, and the Bastard of Salisbury (an accomplished young Knight, Son of the late Earl) both lost their Lives in Defence of the Post. Lord Warwick hearing of this Defeat, and dreading the Consequences at a Time when a decisive Action was every Hour expected, hastened with the Remainder of his Forces towards the Enemy.

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Enemy. When he came within Sight of the Bridge, he alighted from his Horse, and stabbed it before the whole Army; then turning to King Edward, "Sire, said he, let him fly that will; for my Part, by this good Sign (kissing the Cross of his Sword) I swear, to stand here though unsupported, and keep the Field, whatever be my Fate." Encouraged by Warwick's Resolution, every Bosom swelled with Ardour; and though Proclamation was made, that whoever was unwilling to stay, or afraid to fight, should have Leave to depart, yet not a Man left his Colours. The Attack then began; and Lord Falconbridge, who had been detached

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to pass the River at a Ford about Three Miles higher, falling at the same Time on the Enemy's Rear, they were routed with great Slaughter.

THE Earl, who was the first to enter upon the Bridge, and who shared every Danger with the meanest of his Troops, met upon it the impetuous Clifford, whose personal Bravery rendered him a Foe worthy the noble Sword of Warwick. A fierce and dreadful Encounter began ; but the matchless Strength and Skill of the Earl prevailed. Animated by the Manes of his murdered Friends, who seemed to hover round him, his Blows were irresistible. At every
well-

well-aimed Stroke he cried, "This for York — this for the young defenceless Rutland — and this" (as he pierced his Heart) "this for my much loved Father." Thus was that Cruelty, which Clifford had exercised towards the House of York repaid: and thus will wanton Acts of Inhumanity, and unnecessary Exertions of Power unjustly acquired, be always retaliated.

THE passage of the River being by this Means again opened, Edward and Warwick immediately advanced towards York; and on Palm Sunday, by Break of Day, arrived at the Fields of Towton, where they had a full View of their Adversaries, who

greatly exceeded them in Number.

HENRY having Notice of their Approach, drew up his Troops in order to receive them; but made a difficulty of marching to meet them, thinking it better to employ that Day in the customary religious Rites than in fighting. His Army, however, impatient to see themselves harrassed by the Enemy, and secure in their superiority, sallied out of the Camp to attack them; so that the King was forced to make a Virtue of Necessity, and give Orders to begin the Battle. Henry and Margaret retired into York to wait the Event, leaving the Command

of

of their Forces to the Duke of
Somerfet.

WHILST Edward was advancing to the Charge, there happened a great Fall of Snow, which driving full in the Faces of his Enemies blinded them. This Advantage was improved by Lord Warwick, who, with a Quickness of Thought natural to him, always laid hold of every Contingency, that seemed to favour his Attempts. That Nobleman ordered some of the strongest Archers to advance before the Line, and after having sent a Volley of Arrows amongst the Foe, instantly to retire. The Lancastrians imagining from this, that they

were got within the Reach of the opposite Army, discharged all their Arrows, which fell short without doing any Execution, After their Quivers were exhausted, Edward advanced, whose Archers, in their Turn, having emptied their Shafts to much greater Purpose, the Sword decided the Combat; which lasted ten Hours before it could be known, which Party would prove victorious. At length some of Henry's Troops giving Ground, and falling back on those posted behind, Confusion ensued; of which their Adversaries taking proper Advantage, they were put to Flight. Edward having issued Orders to give no Quarter, the routed Army was pursued

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pursued to Tadcaster with great Havock and Bloodshed. It is computed, Thirty-six Thousand Men fell in the Battle and Pursuit; among whom were many Noblemen of great Distinction. Here Sir Andrew Trollop paid with his Life, for his former Infidelity to the Earl of Warwick.

HENRY and Margaret were soon made acquainted with the Defeat of their Army, and being sensible that no Place in England could now afford them Shelter, they fled with the greatest Precipitation into Scotland.

EDWARD and Warwick entered the City of York with their

B 6

victo-

victorious Troops, and having ordered the Heads of their Fathers to be taken down from the Walls, caused some of the vanquished Lords to be placed in their Stead. Having also taken every Step to prevent any future Disturbance from the adverse Party, they marched back to London, and entered in Triumph. King Edward now found the good Effects of the vigorous Measures he had pursued, as well as of his late Victory; for the Parliament acknowledged his Right to the Throne, and he was solemnly crowned, the Twenty-seventh Day of June 1461.

HERE

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HERE it is necessary to relate an Adventure that my Heroine was engaged in, which could not be inserted in its proper Place, without breaking in upon the Chain of the national History.

FROM the Battle of Saint Alban's, in which Lord Warwick, through the Treachery of Lovelace, was defeated by the Queen, until her Retreat into the North on the approach of the Earl of March, all the Country adjacent to her Camp was a Prey to her licentious Troops: The most sacred Places were not secure from their Ravages. A party of them one Day roving in search of Plunder, came to the Convent into
which

which Lady Anne Neville had retired to bewail her lost Lover. Though they were restrained by a religious Awe from exercising their Depredations on the regular Nuns, yet they spared not the Ladies who were Visitors, of whom there was a considerable Number. When the Officer who commanded the Troop heard the Name of Lady Anne mentioned, knowing that she had once been upon very friendly Terms with the Queen, and since that, very intimately connected with her greatest Enemy, he thought he could not render his Mistress a more acceptable Service, than by putting it into her Power either to punish or forgive a Lady that
had

had acted thus ambiguously : He accordingly conveyed her to the Camp, and delivered her up to Margaret.

ALTHOUGH the impressions of Grief were still visible in Lady Anne's Countenance, and her Mind was not free from Apprehensions, she thought it necessary to disguise her Feelings, and appear chearful, lest the Queen should find her Rage redoubled at a Sorrow arising from the Execution of her Vengeance on her deadliest Foe.

MARGARET rejoiced at having this Lady once more in her Power; and had it been prudent to follow the

the Dictates of her Resentment, would have sacrificed her to it: But unwilling to destroy a Person that might yet be serviceable to her, she received the Captive with her usual Familiarity, and after a few gentle Upbraidings, seemed to have banished all her Resentment. She even affected to treat her with Confidence, making her Bosom once more the Repository of her Secrets.

THE Queen, among other Qualifications appertaining to a refined Politician, was an Adept in Dissimulation, and could conceal the lurking Venom under Smiles and Condescension. Lady Anne, on the contrary, was open, sincere, and

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and friendly ; therefore the more easily deceived, and made the Dupe of Margaret's deep-laid Schemes. Edward being in Possession of London, and proclaimed King, through the Interest and Management of Lord Warwick, Margaret began to be sensible, that it would be impossible for her to withstand the Power of the new King, or to be restored to her Throne, whilst he was assisted by that potent Nobleman. His Destruction was consequently resolved upon ; and a Plan being concerted by the Queen and her favourite Somerset, the Execution of it was left to the Bloody Clifford. As Lady Anne was to act a principal Part in this Tragedy,

gedy, though without being let into the Catastrophe, it was necessary by an apparent Frankness to gain her good Opinion; the Queen accordingly redoubled her Kindness, and endeavoured by every Act of Friendship, to lull her into a Security favourable to their Wishes.

WHEN this Lady's Mind was properly prepared, Margaret informed her, (keeping the Revolution which had lately happened in London, from her Knowledge) that actuated by the just Hatred she bore the Earl of Warwick her Brother, she was determined to offer a large Reward for his Head; and from her late Success, she

she was assured it would soon be brought her: Nevertheless, as it was a Maxim with her, not to employ the Extremes of Rigour, till she had exhausted those of Goodness, she would yet from her Regard for Lady Anne, and a Sense of the Earl's great Qualifications, defer her Vengeance. However she assured her, that nothing should secure him from it, but the Acceptance of her Proposals. These were, that if he would abandon the House of York, and return to his Allegiance, he should be at Liberty to make his own Conditions; that he should be next to herself in the Government of the State; and that every Honour and Emolument

ment the most ambitious mind could aspire to, should be his Reward. To enforce these Offers, she added, that if her Brother refused them, her Life should pay the Forfeiture of his Obstinacy, notwithstanding the Esteem she had for her.

LADY Anne received these Proposals with Distrust, as she well knew Margaret's Inveteracy to all the Adherents of the House York; but finding them confirmed by the most solemn Asseverations of Honour and Sincerity, and at the same Time urged by Apprehensions for her own Safety, she consented with a good Grace, to be the Mediatrix. To give her an Oppor-

Opportunity of using her Influence with the Earl, she had Leave to write to him to desire a Conference at his House near Chelsea: A Guard of Fifty Men was to be allowed her, which Number it was expected Lord Warwick would not exceed. Agreeable to this Permission, Lady Anne wrote to her Brother that she had some very important Overtures to make him, without specifying of what Nature they were. The Place appointed being so near London, and the Body of Men ordered for the Escort being so inconsiderable, every Apprehension of Treachery was removed.

THE

THE Earl loved his Sister, and having been greatly afflicted when he heard she was fallen into the Queen's Hands, he was in Hopes of being able to set her at Liberty by this Meeting: Any Agreement with his avowed Enemy was far from his Thoughts. Margaret as little intended to fulfil, on her Part, any of the Engagements she had entered into; she thirsted for the Life of so powerful an Adversary, and made this Diffimulation a Means of procuring it. The Conference, consequently lasted but a short Time, as the Earl rejected, without a Moment's Consideration, every Proposal that was capable of wounding his Glory. He then informed

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informed his Sister, that his chief Inducement for meeting her, was to rescue her out of the Queen's Hands ; which, as the Number of both their Attendants was equal, he would engage to accomplish. He did not suspect his being overheard by Clifford, who had promised Margaret to kill him if the Proposals were refused.

THIS Lord, whose Hand was accustomed to such barbarous Actions, with two of his most trusty Officers, were there in the Habits of Women. They had got Admission into the House, two Hours before the Arrival of Lady Anne, under Pretext of belonging to her Retinue ; and
having

having approached the Place of Conference, had posted themselves so advantageously, as both to hear and to be ready to surprize them. Clifford no sooner heard the Purport of this Conversation, than he rushed with his Companions into the Chamber where the Earl was. The Noise they made in their Approach, gave him Time to put himself in a Posture of Defence, and being armed from Head to Foot, he escaped receiving any Hurt by the first Blows they gave him.

LADY Anne endeavoured by her Cries to call his Men to their Master's Assistance ; but they were not immediately able to assist him ;
for

for Orders having been given to Clifford's Soldiers to attack the others on the least Disturbance, Lord Warwick's Party being unsuspecting, and consequently less prepared, sustained the Assault with the greatest Difficulty. Thus, whilst the Slaughter begun without, the Earl was obliged to defend himself within against three Men who had sworn his Destruction. My Heroine felt herself animated with so much Courage on this Occasion, that she seized Lord Clifford, and held him for a Time immoveable; till her Brother having dispatched one, and disengaged himself from the second, got out of the Door. His Presence inspired his Men

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with fresh Resolution, and gave them a sure Prefage of Victory. In a short Time the whole Troop was cut to Pieces, and Clifford alone, of so many who had thought themselves certain of Success, saved himself by escaping into an adjacent Wood.

LORD Warwick, to whom such hardy Deeds were Amusements, returned to his Sister with as much Composure as if the Conversation had not been interrupted. At that Time, Courage and Strength of Body were distinguishable and successful: Those * deadly

* Polydore Virgil gives the following Account of the Invention of Gunpowder and

deadly Engines of Destruction,
that have since made such Ha-

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vock

Guns.—“ But of all other Engines that ever
“ were devised for the Destruction of Man,
“ the Guns be most devilish; which were
“ invented by a certain Almain, whose Name
“ is not known, after this Sort: It chanced
“ that he had in a Morter Powder of Brim-
“ stone, that he had beaten for a Medicine,
“ and covered it with a Stone; and as he
“ strooke Fire, it fortun'd a Spark to fall
“ into the Powder: Suddenly there arose a
“ great Flame out of the Morter, and lifted
“ up the Stone wherewith it was covered a
“ great Heighth: And after he had per-
“ ceived that, he made a Pipe of Iron, and
“ tempered the Powder, and so finished this
“ deadly Engine; and taught the Venetians
“ the Use of it, when they warred at
“ Claudius' Dike against the Genuates (a),
“ which was in the Year of our Lord 1380.
“ For this Invention he received this Bene-

(a) The Genoese.

vock among Mankind, whether levelled by the Coward or the Brave, were not then in Use, a few Pieces of heavy and unweildy Artillery excepted. The Battle-Axe, the Sword, or the Arrow, were the Weapons of that Age; nor could the best proof Armour withstand their Force, when wielded by our great Forefathers.

THE Earl of Warwick conveyed his Sister to London, where she remained during his Expedition into the North, and till, by Margaret's Defeat at the Battle of Towton,

“fit, that his Name was never known, lest
“he might, for this abominable Device,
“have been cursed and evil spoken of, whilst
“the World standeth.”

Towton, Edward was securely fixed on the English Throne. Thus was my Heroine by another of those sudden Revolutions, which had frequently been her Lot, as unexpectedly snatched out of the Hands of a revengeful and perfidious Queen, as she had been thrown into them. Had Lady Anne continued in Margaret's Power after the Failure of Clifford's Attempt, her Life would probably have attoned for the Disappointment; but the Queen's Retreat before the well disciplined Army of Edward and Warwick, took up all her Attention, and blotted from her Memory the Vexation it had occasioned.

AT the Coronation, which was solemnized soon after the King returned in Triumph, Lady Anne threw aside the Trappings of Woe, though it was not quite eradicated from her Heart, and added considerably to the Splendour of the Day, by the Grandeur and Elegance of her Appearance. Her Beauty, which seemed to be newly blown on the Occasion, attracted the Admiration of every Observer; her Frailties were forgotten, and every Tongue with prophetic Exclamations pronounced the Sister of their Favourite Warwick, worthy of that Happiness which Fate had yet in Store for her. From this Time till her Marriage, she chiefly resided

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sided at one of her Brother's Palaces, as, for their Magnificence, they might properly be termed; where she proved, that she was not only allied to him by Blood, but by Greatness of Soul.

By a natural Progression, as a Calm succeeds a Storm, the Horrors of War, and the gentle Employments of Love, by Turns engage the Attention of the truly brave.

IN the prosperous Situation to which Edward was happily arrived, he delivered himself up without Controul, to those Pleasures, which his Youth, his high Fortune, and his natural Tempera-

ment invited him to enjoy ; and the Cares of Royalty were less attended to, than the Dissipation of Amusement, or the Allurements of Passion. His cruel and unrelenting Spirit, though inured to the Ferocity of civil Wars, was at the same Time extremely devoted to the softer Passions. During the present Interval of Peace, he lived in the most familiar and social Manner with his Subjects, particularly with the Citizens of London ; and the Beauty * of his Person,

* There is a Picture in the Archbishop's Palace at Lambeth, which seems to be an exact Representation of this King, so renowned for his personal Beauties, and the numerous Conquests they enabled him to make among the fair Sex. There appears a just Symmetry in the Formation of his whole

Person, as well as the Gallantry of his Address, even unassisted by his royal Dignity, rendered him infinitely pleasing to the Ladies.

AMIDST a Variety of short-lived Attachments, one more particularly

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Form ; but though arrayed in his royal Robes, and his Head encircled with a Cap of State, yet the lank disshevelled Hair that falls below it, gives a Turn to the Face so very dissonant to our present Ideas of Gracefulness, that it raises our Wonder how it should become the Subject of universal Admiration, and irresistible Love. Some Allowance ought certainly to be made for the Unskilfulness of the Painters of that Age, and much for the Force of Fashion and Custom ; this Consideration might perhaps enforce our Assent to the historic Accounts of Edward's attractive Powers, and invalidate this Remark.

ticularly engaged his Attention, and fixed (as far as it was possible to fix) his wandering Heart. The Family of the Lucies had filled the most important Places in the Kingdom, and had always been firmly attached to the House of York. On the Accession of the Earl of March to the Throne, they greatly signalized themselves in his Service, and consequently enjoyed a large Share of his Favour. The fair Elizabeth, a Daughter of the present Head of that Family, was a Conquest worthy the gallant Edward. Nature seemed to have formed them for each other, the King the finest Prince of the Age, she famed for her Beauty. Her
Ambi-

Ambition led her to aspire to share his Throne ; but too much captivated by his Person, and infatuated by his Addresses, she yeilded to his Persuasions all that was dear to her, without the necessary Stipulations. The King at first visited her with Circumspection to secure her Reputation, but her Ambition soon frustrated this prudential Step : Proud of her royal Captive, she boasted to the World her Power over him, and by accepting the Title of Marchioness of Hereford, divulged the Favours that had procured it. However pleasing this Method was to her Pride, yet it proved in some Degree fatal to the King's Love, by removing that

Secresy, and putting an End to those stolen Interviews, that constituted the nicest and sweetest Part of its Relish : She notwithstanding held the chief Place in his Heart, during the early Part of his Reign.

WHEN Edward was firmly established on his Throne, through Gratitude for the Earl of Warwick's powerful Assistance, he heaped the highest Honours, and bestowed the most lucrative Places upon him ; making him his bosom Friend, and the Confidant of his Amours:

WHILST the King was engaged in a Succession of Gallantry,
and

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and roving like the Bee in Search of new Pleasures, Lord Warwick neither inferior to him in the Graces of his Person, or the Arts of pleasing, was not unemployed.

BUT how shall I descend?
When our Ideas are elevated with heroic Deeds, and the Warriors we read of, are raised in our Imagination to Demi-gods, it is with Difficulty we bring ourselves to suppose them guilty of any Actions, or subject to any Frailties, in common with Mankind. Yet if we enquire into the private Lives of the greatest Heroes, we shall find them only Men. Alexander intoxicated by Success and Wine, and instigated by a beautiful

teous Female, who kept the Conqueror of the World himself in Subjection, sullied his Laurels by Deeds degrading to Humanity, and reduced to Ashes a City built in all the Grandeur, and Magnificence of Asiatic Luxury. Imperial Cæsar, amidst his many Triumphs, and whilst Kings and conquered Nations lay prostrate at his Feet, thought it not beneath his Dignity, to humble himself at the Feet of the Roman Dames, esteeming their Smiles a Reward for all his Toils. As the most eminent Historians have not thought it beneath them to descend to Biography, but have handed down to us these and many other well attested Facts, their
their

their Examples will justify my recording the Weaknesses and Errors of those great Men whose Memoirs employ my Pen, notwithstanding many of my Readers, whose Taste leads them to relish only Accounts of War and Havock, Negotiations and Treaties, may disapprove of it.

LADY Warwick being dead, the Earl, who had not reached the Summit of Life, was now at Liberty to indulge his Turn for Gallantry, by dedicating his Services to some fair One; this was then esteemed an indispensable Appendage to Knighthood. Cupid, who seldom permits any of his Votaries to be long at Rest,
drew

drew from his Quiver one of his sharpest Arrows, and with it pierced a Breast, at which many a pointed Dart, urged by the Warrior's nervous Arm, had been levelled in vain. The revengeful God inspired him with a tender delicate Passion, but at the same Time rendered it hopeless. His Mistress with-held by Engagements which only Death could dissolve, and severely virtuous, afforded no Balm for his Wound. The only Consolation he found, was the Hope of having a Place in her Heart; this, however unsatisfactory, he was obliged to content himself with, and to confine his Passion within the most platonic Bounds.

SUCH

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SUCH Forbearance was not uncommon in those Ages of Chivalry; and however justly ridiculed by the inimitable Pen of Cervantes, when carried to Extremes, and terminating in Quixotism, yet it appears to constitute a capital Part of the Character of a true Knight. Lovers then could sigh whole Years, and live on airy Hopes, dealt out by their prudent Mistresses with the most sparing Hand: And though there then existed Females, such as my Heroine, Lady Anne, who impelled by their Sensibility, and irresistible Circumstances, for a Moment broke through the just Restraints of Discretion, the Nation produced others, who alike
susceptible,

susceptible, could wisely confine their Wishes within the Restrictions of Virtue, using every Art to keep their Feelings from the Knowledge of their Lovers, although the envenomed Shaft lay rankling in their Breasts. The Countess of Devonshire, by whose Beauty Lord Warwick accidentally became captivated, might be ranked among the latter, as the lively Impressions made on her Heart, by his amiable Character and Accomplishments, could not attempt her to infringe the Duty she owed her Lord; and even after his Death, a Delicacy occasioned by the Mode of it, prevented her Union with the Man she loved.

THE

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THE Earl was one Day at Court, when a Friend who had not been able to withstand the Power of that Lady's Charms, which were then blowing in all the Luxuriance of Youth, entertained him for a long while with her Praises. Lord Warwick had indeed seen her, but she being then very young, and he at that Time attached to another, her Beauty had not made any Impression upon him; but hearing so striking a Description of it from her Lover, he found his Curiosity excited, and he burned with Impatience to behold so celebrated a Lady. Though his Friend had made the Earl his Confidant, which ought to have secured him a Return of Sincerity, yet

yet the Desire of supplanting him, arose in his Lordship's Breast, before the Recital was finished; and he determined to form some plausible Pretext for paying her a Visit.

How comes it, that in Affairs of Love there is no Friendship or Disinterestedness? Men of unimpeached Integrity in other Respects, who would conform with the utmost Punctuality to the Laws of War and Honour, and fulfil every Engagement with the greatest Exactness, blinded by the Charms of a fine Woman, find every generous Sentiment vanish; they scruple not to become the Rival of their Friend, and hesitate
not

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not at any Deceit to accomplish
their disingenuous Designs.

LORD Warwick, thus unrestrained by the Obligations of Friendship, already loved the Countess from the Description he had heard. His Impatience would not brook a long Delay ; therefore the first Time he knew the Earl of Devonshire to be from Home, he went to his House, desiring Leave to speak with the Countess about some Business that concerned her Lord. The Season being very hot, she was retired to a Grotto at the further End of the Garden, where he found her seated by the Side of her Mother the Countess of Anglesea, in an elegant

gant Undress. Notwithstanding the Earl was prepared for the Interview by the Praises and Transports of his Friend, his Surprise was so great at beholding such a Profusion of Charms, and his Pleasure in contemplating them so excessive, that in Spight of all his natural Boldness, and Experience in Gallantry, he could not find Words to introduce himself, but stood silently bowing. In this Confusion he continued for some Moments; and refusing an Offer of a Seat near the Lady Mother, as from thence he could not have so compleat a View of her charming Daughter, he sat himself down on the Edge of a large white Marble Basin, that served for a Reservoir
to

to a Fountain. Whilst he continued thus lost in Wonder, and fixed as by Enchantment, he was surprized to find himself on a sudden wet and cold; and turning round, he perceived it proceeded from the Jet d'Eau, which the Gardiner, on seeing the Earl enter the Grotto, had officiously caused to play. This ill-timed Compliment, however had the good Effect to recover the enamoured Earl from the Labyrinth in which he was wandering, and to put the Ladies into a good Humour: His natural Vivacity instantaneously returned, and he entertained the Two Countesses with such genuine Wit and Sprightliness, as prejudiced them much in his Favour, and made them
wish

with for a Continuance of the Conversation. But the uncomfortable Condition he was in, forced him to tear himself away from the Happiness he just began to enjoy, and he took an abrupt Leave, with a Promise of returning the next Day to explain the pretended Business he came upon.

THIS Incident appears trifling, and unworthy of Notice; but, as it led to a Discovery of the King's Passion for the Countess, and the consequent Events, it is necessary that it should be recorded.

WHEN the Earl got home, he threw himself on his Bed, much less taken up with the Thoughts
of

of the Accident, than of the lovely Lady he had just seen, whose Idea had made so strong an Impression on his Mind, that he fancied her still present. A Thousand confused Imaginations perplexed him ; but his Reflections answered no other Purpose than to banish from his Remembrance every Obstruction, and determined him to continue the Pursuit, notwithstanding it made him guilty of a Breach of Friendship : But “ *Omnia vincit Amor.*” Love, when it gets Possession of the Heart, there sits enthroned, and like a Tyrant, drives from his Presence every intruding Reflection that dares to oppose his Will.

WHILST Lord Warwick's whole Mind was insensibly taken up with these Considerations, the King sent for him : He found his Majesty in his Closet, where he gave the Earl some Letters to read aloud, which had lately been received from France. His Voice being rather hoarse, Edward asked him whether he had been bathing himself : Not a little surprised at the Question, but satisfied that the King could know nothing of what had happened in the Grotto, he imputed it to a Cold he had caught by the Dampness of the Evening. Edward smiled at this Evasion ; and, seeing the Earl confused, told him that the Earl of Devonshire had desired him

to

to forbid his Lordship his House, as he was jealous of the Liberty he had taken of bathing before his Lady. Lord Warwick, seeing the King was acquainted with the Adventure, affected an Indifference; assuring him that he had really called on the Earl upon some Business, and that he did not expect the Honour of seeing the Ladies. "I am glad of it," replied Edward; "as you are very dear to me, my Lord, I should be sorry to see you engaged in an unsuccessful Amour: For know that the Countess's haughty Heart will admit of no Slaves below the Rank of Kings."

THE Earl concealed his Surprise at finding in his Master a Rival, and again assured him, that lovely as Lady Devonshire was, the Sight of her had as yet made no Impression on him. Even the proud and noble Mind of Warwick could dissemble in a Matter that so nearly concerned him: So unaccountable and retrograde are the Impulses of Love; it makes the Coward bold, and the Hero apprehensive and timorous.

“ THERE is Danger in her
“ Eyes, returned the King, there-
“ fore avoid them; to my Cost
“ I have found it so: But I will
“ make you my Confidant and
“ disclose

LADY ANNE NEVILLE. 53

“ disclose to you the whole Story
“ of my Love. One Day as I
“ was hunting near Windsor, in
“ the Heat of the Chase, which
“ continued to an unusual Hour, I
“ found myself separated from my
“ Attendants: The Sun began to
“ decline, the Sky became cloudy,
“ and it rained much. I sought
“ for Shelter in a neighbouring
“ Grove, determined to wait till
“ the Hounds, which I heard at a
“ Distance, came up. I had scarce-
“ ly got under the Trees, when I
“ was alarmed by an Outcry, and
“ presently perceived a Lady whose
“ Horse had run away with her,
“ making full Speed towards the
“ Spot where I stood. I soon
“ stopped the Horse, and casting

D 3

“ my

54 The HISTORY of

“ my Eyes on the Person I had
 “ thus saved from Danger, knew
 “ her to be the Countess of De-
 “ vonshire. I lifted her to the
 “ Ground, pale and trembling,
 “ and so confused by her Fears,
 “ that she did not know me. I
 “ assured her of her Safety, and
 “ endeavoured to compose her
 “ Mind; but at the same Time
 “ I felt my own unusually dis-
 “ turbed. Whilst I was talking
 “ to her she had recovered herself
 “ sufficiently to take Notice of
 “ the Freedom of my Conver-
 “ sation, and casting her Eyes
 “ upon me, immediately knew
 “ me. She was struck with Sur-
 “ prize, but with a respectful
 “ Modesty making her Acknow-
 “ ledgements

LADY ANNE NEVILLE. 55

“ ledgements for the Service I
“ had done her, she begged I
“ would permit her to depart,
“ and seek out Lord Devonshire,
“ who could not be far off. Over-
“ come by her Charms, which
“ received, if possible, an Ad-
“ vantage from her Disorder, and
“ that sweet Confusion into which
“ her Fears had thrown her, I
“ would have detained her a few
“ Moments, to breathe out my
“ Passion at her Feet ; but her
“ Prudence prevailed : And seeing
“ her about to mount again the
“ Horse, on which she had so
“ lately hazarded her Life, rather
“ than oblige her to run any further
“ Risk, I complied with her Re-
“ quest, and left her.

D 4

“ As

“ As soon as I had done so I
“ blamed myself for this impru-
“ dent Complaisance; and re-
“ proached myself for leaving her
“ alone and unguarded, in the
“ midst of a Forest, in such
“ tempestuous Weather. I tor-
“ tured my Mind with Appre-
“ hensions for her Safety, fancy-
“ ing the Hours stood still until
“ I could make some Enquiry
“ after her. This I was obliged
“ to do with the greatest Caution,
“ in respect to my lovely Countess.
“ I therefore sent the next Morn-
“ ing to the Earl her Husband,
“ whose Seat was not far off, to de-
“ fire he would lend me his Pack of
“ Stag Hounds, mine being left in
“ London. I doubted not but
“ he

“ he himself would come along
 “ with them; nor was I disap-
 “ pointed. I asked him where he
 “ had been the Day before, and
 “ why he did not go with me a
 “ hunting. He told me, that be-
 “ ing not very well, he rode out
 “ in his Carriage; but that his
 “ Wife, who chose to go on
 “ Horseback, was in the greatest
 “ Danger imaginable, and owed
 “ her Life to a Peasant who had
 “ saved her.

“ PLEASED to find that our In-
 “ terview had escaped Discovery,
 “ I proceeded to the Chase, or-
 “ dering the Stag to be turned
 “ towards the Earl's Seat. But to
 “ avoid Suspicion, notwithstand-

“ing my Impatience, I pursued
“it with Eagerness, and pretend-
“ed to be displeased that it was
“run down so soon. As this
“happened near Lord Devon-
“shire’s House, he invited me to
“it, and I gave him not an Op-
“portunity to reiterate his Re-
“quest.

“THE Noise of the Hounds
“and Horns had brought the
“Countess to a Terrace, where
“she was walking with some of
“the neighbouring Ladies and
“her Mother. There I joined
“them; and whilst her Husband
“was giving Directions about
“preparing a magnificent Cola-
“tion for my Entertainment, I
“found

“ found a few Moments to satis-
 “ fy my Anxiety, and give Vent
 “ to that Flame I could no longer
 “ smother. I told her how un-
 “ easy I had been on her Account,
 “ and how I had reproached my-
 “ self for abandoning her in so
 “ lonely a Place.” “ It was ab-
 “ solutely necessary it should be
 “ so, for every Body’s Repose,
 answered the Countess with a
 smile; “ your Majesty was not
 “ far off before my Lord Devon-
 “ shire came to the Place, when
 “ he asked me by what Miracle I
 “ had escaped the Danger I was
 “ in from the furious Horse. I
 “ told him as it really happened,
 “ only Sir, instead of naming
 “ your Majesty, I mentioned a
 D 6 “ Peasant

“Peasant as my Preserver.”
“The Secret you have been
“pleased to keep, I receive as a
“happy Omen, I replied with
“Fervour, and I flatter myself,
“that as you have thus se-
“cured me from the Suspicion of
“Observers, you will not aim at
“my Destruction by refusing to
“accept my offered Heart. The
“loveliest of Women blushed at
“my forming these flattering
“Hopes, and thus returned with
“unaffected Modesty. “I was
“perhaps in the Wrong to make
“a Mystery of so innocent a Mat-
“ter; but Sir, Persons of my Age
“have so little Experience, that
“it is a hard Task to act proper-
“ly in every Circumstance.” “I
“made

“ made Use of every Argument
“ to draw from her a more favour-
“ able Answer, but in vain; she
“ kept her Eyes steadfast on the
“ Ground, during our whole Dis-
“ course, and concluded it with
“ assuring me, that no Man living
“ should have her Heart, but he
“ to whom it of Right belonged.

“ THE Earl then approaching,
“ led us to an Entertainment serv-
“ ed up with the utmost Magni-
“ ficence; but his Zeal and Re-
“ spect chiefly pleased me, as it
“ gave me an Opportunity of be-
“ ing near his Lady. My Atten-
“ tion was too much engaged in
“ forming Schemes to procure a
“ few Moments Conversation
“ more

“ more with the Countess, to enjoy
“ the Profusion of Dainties that
“ were set before me. I succeed-
“ ed in the Afternoon, but made
“ no greater Progress though I
“ urged my Suit with all the Ar-
“ dour and Impatience of a Man
“ not accustomed to Obstacles of
“ that Nature.

“ DISAPPOINTED in this Mode
“ of Application, I ordered one
“ of the Grooms of my Bed-
“ chamber to dive into all the
“ Circumstances of the Family.
“ This he did so successfully, that
“ having insinuated himself into
“ the Acquaintance of an old
“ Gentlewoman who had been
“ Governess to Lady Devonshire,
“ he

“ he found her of so covetous a
“ Disposition, that in all Probabi-
“ lity she would not withstand
“ Liberality. I then took my
“ Leave, and enjoined his Lord-
“ ship to be with me early in the
“ Morning, to hunt the Stag.

“ THE Adventures of the Day
“ so employed my Thoughts, and
“ the Image of her I loved so con-
“ tinually presented itself before
“ me, that Sleep fled from my
“ Eyes. I arose before the Sun,
“ to the Surprize of the whole
“ Court; and was abroad so early,
“ that Lord Devonshire came af-
“ ter I was gone: However he
“ found me out, and I gave him
“ a kind Reception. Under pre-
“ tence

“ tence of talking of his Seat, I
“ enquired after his Lady; he
“ told me that she was the Oc-
“ casion of his not being sooner
“ with me, as she had that
“ Morning set out for London.
“ I know not whether he observ-
“ ed my Countenance whilst he
“ spoke, but the Concern that
“ was painted on it must be visi-
“ ble; however, he continued to
“ inform me, that the Illness of
“ the Earl of Anglesea, her Fa-
“ ther, was the Occasion of her
“ Journey. This calmed my
“ Fears a little, but I was so dis-
“ composed, that after following
“ the Chase for some Time, I
“ struck into a Bye-Road, and
“ soon found myself alone. Here
“ I

" I alighted, and throwing my-
" self at the Foot of a Tree, I
" gave Way to my Meditations.
" Sometimes I suffered them to
" rove over all the Beauties of my
" adorable Countess; at others I
" formed Plans for obtaining Pos-
" session of them, and lamented
" her unexpected Absence. Thus
" struggling betwixt Desire and
" Fear, I found myself fluctuat-
" ing on the boisterous Waves
" of a Sea that is never free from
" Storms.

" WHILST I lay absorbed in
" these Meditations, I heard the
" Noise of Horses, and the Voices
" of Women; displeased with the
" Intrusion, I arose to avoid them;
" but

“ but how shall I express my
“ Raptures, when the first Object
“ which struck my Sight, was the
“ Person that of all others I wish-
“ ed to see. Impelled by the se-
“ cret Power of Love, I ran to-
“ wards her, and without asking
“ whether she would alight, nay
“ without knowing what I pro-
“ posed to do, I took her in my
“ Arms, and set her on the
“ Ground. But in a Moment re-
“ collecting myself, and blaming
“ my Rashness, I entreated her
“ Pardon, and conjured her to let
“ me know what unforeseen good
“ Chance had brought her back.
“ She told me, that the Axle-tree
“ of her Carriage being broken
“ by the Badness of the Road,
“ and

“ and requiring some Time to be
 “ mended, she was resolved to
 “ return Home till it could be put
 “ in a Condition to travel. I laid
 “ hold of this favourable Oppor-
 “ tunity, that the God of Love
 “ had once more blessed me with,
 “ to say every thing that was ten-
 “ der. I described to her my
 “ Feelings on receiving the News
 “ of her sudden Departure, and
 “ informed her that I had retir-
 “ ed to this solitary Place, to in-
 “ dulge the Melancholy that had
 “ taken Possession of my Mind in
 “ Consequence of it. But all my
 “ Rhetoric made no Impression
 “ on her Heart, and I could not
 “ discover in her, a more favoura-
 “ ble Disposition than I had ob-
 “ served

“ served the Day before. I was
“ therefore obliged to be satisfied
“ with Hope, a Lover’s unsubstan-
“ tial Food, and wait till Time,
“ and my Affiduity, should make
“ an Alteration in her Sentiments.
“ Sending a thousand Sighs after
“ her, I rejoined my Train, to
“ whom I was directed by the
“ Cry of the Hounds, which
“ then struck my Ear.

“ THE Earl of Devonshire be-
“ ing ignorant of what Accident
“ had befallen his Lady’s Equi-
“ page, I informed him of it,
“ thinking it might prove of
“ worse Consequence, to make a
“ Mystery of it, than to tell it
“ as it really was. But I found
“ myself

“ myself wrong ; the Earl, whose
“ Suspicions had been already
“ alarmed, imputed the Breaking
“ of the Carriage and our Meet-
“ ing in the Forest, to Contri-
“ vance and Design ; and there-
“ fore resolved to convey her out
“ of my Reach. This he accord-
“ ingly did, by removing her to
“ London at Midnight ; at the
“ same Time loading her with un-
“ deserved Reproaches. Albina,
“ her late Governess, whom I had
“ secured to my Interest, gave
“ me this Information, and she
“ continues to acquaint me with
“ every Transaction. From her
“ I learn that the Countess is
“ guarded in the strictest Manner,
“ by Lady Anglesea her Mother,
“ and

“ and I have hitherto endeavour-
 “ ed in vain to see her, or get an
 “ Answer to my Letters. Judge
 “ how much I love her, since I
 “ have till now kept my Attach-
 “ ment secret from you ; but since
 “ I have made you my Confidant,
 “ let me not find in you a Rival :
 “ Love elsewhere, and never visit
 “ the charming Countess more.”

The Earl of Warwick listened
 with Attention to this Declaration
 of his Sovereign, during which
 he had sufficient Leisure to recol-
 lect himself, and form an Answer
 which might satisfy his Doubts.
 He assured him, that it was through
 Business alone he had visited Lady
 Devonshire, and as he found that
 his Majesty was her Admirer, he
 would

would by no Means endeavour to supplant so accomplished a Lover. But a Sigh that escaped him as he finished this Assertion, at the same Time contradicted it. Edward observing the Impression that was made on Warwick's Mind, returned no Answer; his Heart was divided between Love and Generosity. He loved the Earl from Gratitude, but could not prevail on himself to give up his Mistress; to conceal his Chagrin, and to endeavour to dissipate it, he left the Closet, and went into the public Apartments.

LORD Warwick returned Home overwhelmed with the most profound Melancholy; never did any
one

one pass a Night in more Anxiety or Trouble. At one Time he was driven to Despair by finding a Rival in a young Monarch, the Paragon of the Age; but then his Pride, and natural Courage would come to his Assistance, and inspire him with Hope. Thus he lay disquieted and perplexed, till the Morning dawned, by which Time he had concluded to persevere in his Love for the Countess. In order to remove the King out of his Way, he proposed to make Lady Elizabeth Lucie (his Majesty's favourite Mistress) sensible of her royal Lover's Infidelity, and by that Means endeavoured to draw his Master's Attention from the Object of his Desires. Having
formed

formed these Resolutions he arose with his Mind much more composed.

To this Favourite of Edward's did Lord Warwick in Consequence of his nocturnal Meditations apply; and divulging the Secret he was entrusted with, excite her Jealousy and Watchfulness. Having also discovered by the King's Discourse, that the Fidelity of one of Lady Devonshire's Attendants was not incorruptible, he judged she might be engaged to his Interest by more considerable Presents. In this he was not mistaken; his first Attempts were successful, as Avarice

was the old Governess's ruling Passion.

WHILST the Earl was taking these necessary Steps to secure the Lady he loved with so much Ardour, a lucky Accident threw him into her Company as she was on a Visit. The Countess of Anglesea, who was present, watched her Daughter carefully, as the Reasons Lord Warwick had given the Earl of Devonshire, for calling at his House whilst he was absent, appeared unsatisfactory, and awakened in her Mind Suspicions of his real Motive. He however now and then found an Opportunity to whisper a few tender Expressions to her Daughter, and
to

to enforce them with the Language of the Eyes. Though he received no Answer, yet he had the Pleasure to perceive that they did not offend, as she seemed only anxious to elude her Mother's Observation. They did not indeed displease, but sunk deep into her Breast, and made an Impression that was never after eradicated : Whilst Lord Warwick gazed enraptured, and found his Love augmented by every Glance. He no longer remembered the Claims of Friendship, or of Loyalty ; he acknowledged no Sovereign but the Queen of his Desires, and no Friend but the fair One, whose dear Idea filled each Partition of his Heart.

THE King often entertained the Earl with his Passion for the Countess, which he was obliged to listen to with apparent Pleasure, though his Heart was tortured by Jealousy. From these Conversations he learned, that his royal and much dreaded Rival was not more successful than himself; and he further reaped this Advantage from them, that he was able to counteract any of the Plans his Majesty should lay to get a Sight of his Mistress. This Behaviour to both his Friends was not consistent with the rigid Rules of Honour and Generosity; but Stratagems are falsely supposed by Gallants to be as allowable in Love as in War.

ONE

ONE Day the King took him into his Clofet, and told him, that after his Patience was almost exhausted, he had at last prevailed on Albina to procure him an Interview. "You my Lord," says he, "must assist me in it, for this is the Scheme; and this Evening is fixed for the Execution of it:" He then explained it to him, and the Artifices necessary to be used, although to facilitate his Designs, he had sent Lord Anglesea, and the Earl of Devonshire, into Yorkshire, under a Pretence of enquiring into some Disturbances that had arisen in the North. The Earl was so fascinated at this Proposal, that his Tongue for a Time refused its Aid,

and he was unable to speak what Prudence dictated. However, at length recovering himself, he assured his Majesty of his Readiness to assist him. He then retired, pierced with the severest Pain and Vexation; resolving in his Mind every Circumstance of his unhappy Situation. He upbraided himself with having so long delayed to bring over Albina to his Interest, and wondered at Lady Elizabeth Lucie's Supineness notwithstanding the Intelligence he had given her.

SEEING no other Resource, he determined to wait again on that Lady; and after informing her of this new Instance of her Lover's
For-

Forgetfulness, urge her to take every Step to prevent his Defection. He hastened to her, and the Moment he found her alone thus exclaimed ; “ ’Tis this
 “ Night-Madam, that is to decide
 “ your Fate, the King has not
 “ been able hitherto to entertain
 “ the Countess of Devonshire in
 “ private, but now every thing is
 “ prepared for his secret Admissi-
 “ on : Will you suffer this with
 “ the same Tranquility, you have
 “ neglected my first Intelligence,”
 “ I have not been insensible of
 “ the Misfortune that threatens
 “ me,” replied the Marchioness,
 “ but have endeavoured by an In-
 “ crease of Tendernefs, to efface
 “ my Rival from that Heart, of
 E 4 “ which

“ which I had once the absolute
 “ Possession ; but as I find my
 “ Fondness has not been efficac-
 “ ious, I will try another Me-
 “ thod, and the next Time he
 “ visits me, load him with Re-
 “ proaches : I will not even
 “ spare Tears or Threats, to pre-
 “ vent the Countess’s Triumph.”
 The Earl needed not to add any
 Arguments to urge her to perform
 her Promise ; he knew her Impati-
 ence of Controul, the Excess of
 her Love for the King, and the
 great Ascendency she had over
 him, and therefore left her some-
 what eased of his Fears.

IN the Evening when his Ma-
 jesty, according to his Custom, vi-
 sited

sited her, he found her dressed in an elegant Dishabille: Juno had not taken more Pains, when aided by the Cestus of Venus, to engage the Attention of the Sire of the Gods, than the fair Elizabeth had, to secure her Power over her royal Lover. She wore on her Arm the King's Picture, to shew that he alone engrossed her Thoughts, and when he entered the Apartment she negligently lay on a Sopha in a melancholy Attitude. Edward surprized at this uncommon Reception, desired an Explanation; and soon found that she had been informed of his Attachment to Lady Devonshire, which had excited her Jealousy, and driven her almost

to Despair. He combated her Reproaches with Professions of Love, and as a Proof of his Sincerity staid with her till very late, thinking he could keep his Appointment as well the next Night.

THE Earl of Warwick, attentive to the King's Motions, and interested in the Events of that Evening, no sooner heard that his Majesty's Supper was ordered to be served up in the Marchioness's Saloon, than he doubted not of the Success of his Negotiation, and determined to profit by it. Upon this Surmize, he disguised himself as much as possible, and taking Berincour, one of his Gentlemen, and his Confidant, with him,

him, he hastened to the Garden Gate, the Place appointed ; personating the King, and sending his Attendant to perform the Part he was to have acted. The Adventure he was upon was so full of Temerity, that he durst not reflect on the Difficulties which attended it. He was to deceive the Countess, and hazard his Master's Displeasure, without knowing on what Grounds he was to proceed ; but his natural Intrepidity and his ungovernable Love, prompted him to outbrave every Danger. He accordingly proceeded agreeable to the Plan laid down for the King, and found himself introduced by Albina to his lovely Countess.

PREVIOUS to this Event the insatiate Governess, distracted at the Thoughts of losing by her Mistress's Prudence the rich Presents she had been accustomed to receive from the King, had determined to make Use of a Stratagem to insure the Continuance of them. Artful and experienced in the Workings of the female Mind, she soon fathomed the Sentiments of her Lady, who naturally unsuspicious, possessed not Cunning to disguise them; and finding that Lord Warwick had made an Impression on her Heart, which at the same Time she struggled to erase, she advised her to see him and by verbal Injunctions endeavour to quell his pre-

presumptuous Hopes. She represented him as a Man not easily repulsed; therefore pointed out the Necessity of putting a Stop to his Designs before his Lordship had been guilty of any Imprudence that might alarm her Husband, and ruin her Reputation. The Countess for a while withstood her designing Governante's Arguments, but at last conscious of the Innocence of her Intentions, and thinking it the only Method, though a dangerous One, to free herself from his Solicitations, agreed to them. Albina had no sooner obtained her Consent, and fixed the Hour for the Interview, than she determined to introduce the King instead of the Earl, leaving

ing him to combat her Lady's Anger—It has been seen how her Plan was circumvented; the Governess, by the Management of the Earl, was herself deceived, the darkness of the Night and the necessary Silence aiding the Deception; nor was Lord Warwick much less at a Loss, when he found himself received by the Countess as if he alone had been expected.

THE Pleasure he felt at being so near the Object of his Wishes, dispelled every other Thought, and left no Room for an Explanation. He threw himself on his Knees before her, and began in the tenderest Manner, to describe
the

the Violence and Sincerity of his Passion ; but Lady Devonshire interrupted him, and in pursuance of her Design, desired he would never more think of her, or endeavour to interrupt her Repose. A Conversation ensued, which lasted till near Day-light, in which the Earl received but little Consolation ; for though he urged the Force of his Love, with all the engaging Arts he was Master of, yet the Countess could not be prevailed on to give him the least Hope, or to swerve in any Degree from her Duty. She often reproached herself for permitting this Interview ; and though she sometimes dropped Expressions which shewed the Earl he was not quite
indif-

indifferent to her, yet they were cloathed with so much Virtue and Delicacy, so free from every Tincture of Passion, that they served only to keep her Lover from Despair. He had, however, the Happiness to learn, that he had nothing to fear from any rival. Albina, who had not been suffered to leave the Room, now reminded his Lordship, that it was Time for him to retire, which he at last did, though with the greatest Reluctance, after having by his Liberality secured the Governess to his Interest, and compensated for the counteraction of her Scheme. As Avarice alone had before attached her to the King, the Earl's superior Generosity

rosity attoned for her Disappointment, and put a Stop to her Enquiries relative to the Circumstances that had occasioned it.

LORD Warwick's whole Study now, was to detach the King from Lady Devonshire ; he was satisfied he had nothing to fear on her Part, but he knew Edward too well, to suppose he would give over the Pursuit, whilst there was the least probability of Success. He therefore took Care frequently to alarm the Jealousy of Lady Elizabeth Lucie, and to excite her watchfulness. The King really loved that Lady, as well as a Heart continually wandering can be said to Love : Her
Re-

Reproaches consequently gave him Pain, and he endeavoured by an Increase of Tendernefs and Refpect, to banish from her Mind every jealous Apprehenfion.

BUT he could not drive from his own the lovely Image of the Countefs; however Lady Elizabeth's Affiduity, and a Message he received the next Day from Albina, obliged him to fupprefs his Impetuofity. The Governefs informed his Majefty, that Lady Anglefea, from an Excefs of Care whilft the Lords were abfent, had taken it into her Head to fleep in the Room adjoining to her Daughter's, and therefore it would be impoffible to introduce him

him as proposed. This greatly vexed the King, and he told Lord Warwick, who was present when he received the Letter, that he would not much longer curb his Impatience, or have so much Regard for her Reputation as he had done, but would see her at all Events. The Earl was not unacquainted with the Contents of the Letter, as it had been written according to his Agreement with Albina; but as he knew Edward was fiery, and impatient of Controul, he was apprehensive lest he should make some Attempt that would alarm the Earl of Devonshire, and make his own Approach the more difficult.

HAD

HAD the Success of his Amour depended on Force of Arms, Lord Warwick would not thus have been a placid Witness to the Attempts of the King, or have patiently listened to the Avowal of his Passion : He would have boldly stood forth, and in the Face of the World, defied the most potent Monarch of it to dispute his Claim. With Pleasure would he have left the Decision of his Pretences to the strongest Arm, and bravest Heart : “ To win and “ wear” would have been his Motto. But in the Contests of Gallantry, there is an Article required that is not so absolutely necessary in War. Secresy is the Soul of Love ; the Force of Ajax may
may

may avail in one, but the Prudence and Sagacity of Ulysses, alone can carry off the Prize from contending Lovers. The Situation of the Lady to whom Fate had directed his Vows, required unusual Silence and Forbearance. The Sincerity of his Affection made him avoid every Circumstance that could offend, and he knew that a circumspective Conduct only, could entitle him to a Return of her Esteem. He became interested therefore in every Thing that concerned his Mistress; her Reputation was from the Moment he loved her, dearer to him than his own; his whole Study was to please her; and the natural Fierceness of his Temper dissolved

dissolved into Complacency and Tendernefs. Yet let not the noble Warwick, the Man who by his Valour and Magnanimity acquired the Difpofal of Sceptres, degenerate in my Reader's Imagination to a whining Coward: When called into the Field or Cabinet, he could be again himfelf. Tho' the brilliant Actions of fome Heroes are only handed down to us, and we view their Characters through the magnifying End of the Tube; yet Hercules himfelf could lay afide his Club, and amufe himfelf with the Diftaff, to enjoy the Company of the Woman he loved. All truly great Souls have defcended occasionally, and divesting themfelves of their Heroifm,

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roism, have become susceptible of the tender Passions. Let Sweden's Madman * wade through Blood, a Stranger to Humanity, and ravage Nations for an empty Name; he stands alone, and stands abhorred: The Man who never felt a soft Sensation, like him that fired the Ephesian Temple, should die unknown, and every Trace of his Existence be wiped away.

ABOUT this Time Queen Margaret returned from France, with a Body of Two Thousand Men; which enabled her on being reinforced by a numerous Train of Adventurers from Scotland, and many

* Charles the Twelfth.

many Partizans of the Lancaster Family, to take the Field, and make an Inroad into England. Edward sent for Lord Warwick, and telling him of the Intelligence he had received, ordered him to set out immediately to join his Brother, the Marquis of Montague, who was then in the North, to oppose her. The Earl used always to shew a great Deal of Satisfaction whenever he was to take the Field; but upon this Occasion he was too sensible, how superior the Power of Love is to that of Ambition and Glory. His Reluctance was almost visible to the King; but he bowed Obedience, and left the Palace with unusual Sensations.

HE

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HE sent Berincour to Albina, and commissioned him to make her any Offers, provided she would find a few favourable Moments in which he might bid Adieu to his fair Mistress. The Governess left no Method untried, yet, as the Countess herself would not listen to her Proposals, she was not able to succeed. He then wrote a Letter full of Tenderness and Respect, to which, after much Persuasion, she returned an Answer, wishing the Earl a happy Journey and a fortunate Campaign. But no sooner had she delivered it to the Messenger, than she blamed herself for her too easy Compliance, and felt all the Compunction attendant on a Breach

of Duty. The Earl received the Letter with Raptures, and found a Consolation from it, that enabled him to support a tedious Absence.

Soon after his Arrival at the Army, a Battle was fought near Hexham, in which his Brother and himself were victorious. Many Adherents to the House of Lancaster lost their Lives in the Field; and those who were taken were immediately beheaded according to the savage Custom of the Times.

THE Fate of the unfortunate royal Family, after the Battle of Hexham, is very singular. They
were

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were soon separated ; and Henry found Means to conceal himself in the Northern Parts of the Kingdom, during a Twelve - month, when he was delivered up, and thrown into the Tower. Edward was so satisfied of his inoffensive Disposition, and Inability to disturb his Reign, that he suffered him to live.

QUEEN Margaret, terrified at such a Series of Misfortunes, taking Advantage of the Confusion that prevailed, and the Darkness of the Night, fled into a thick Forest, accompanied only by the Prince of Wales her Son, now about eleven Years old. This gloomy and retired Solitude seemed to give her

some Hopes of Safety in her Flight, and Freedom from Pursuit : But when Disasters begin to attend the Unfortunate, they pursue them in every Place, and become their inseparable Companions. Thus it was with the luckless Queen : In the thickest Part of the Wood she met a Gang of Robbers ; who relentless and unfeeling, without making any Enquiry into the Occasion of her being thus alone and unattended, plundered her of all her Rings and Jewels, the only Remains of her former Grandeur. They even treated her with Indignity, and put her into dreadful Apprehensions for her own, and the Prince's Life. The Partition of this rich Booty, caused a Quarrel

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rel between her Spoilers : From Words they fell to Blows, making Use of Force (the only Justice that prevails among Robbers) to decide their several Pretensions.

WHILST their Attention was thus engaged, Margaret took the Opportunity of making her Escape, and continued her Flight across the Forest ; where she wandered some Time overcome with Hunger and Fatigue, and sunk with Terror and Affliction. In this wretched Condition, when she thought no Circumstance could happen to increase her Misery, she perceived a Man coming towards her, with a drawn Sword

in his Hand. In all Probability, he was hastening to the Rendezvous of the Rest, to give them an Account of some villainous Exploit he had performed. She discovered him at a sufficient Distance to rouse in some Degree her Spirits; then summoning all her natural Resolution to her Aid, with a Tone of Voice, and an Air of Majesty, which even these accumulated Distresses could not deprive her of, she said to him, presenting the young Prince, "Here my Friend, I commit to your Care the Son of your King." The Name of King struck the Robber with Awe. A generous Spirit, which had been obscured, but not entirely lost by his

his vicious Course of Life, happily held a Place in his Breast. Charmed with the Confidence reposed in him, he forgot his Inhumanity, and became respectful; instead of robbing, he lent her Succour, and however cruel and unjust his Trade and Practice had hitherto been, he now signalized himself by an Act of Compassion and Justice. By his Means the Queen and the Prince lived some Time concealed in the Forest, and were at last conducted by him to the Sea-coast, from whence she made her Escape into Flanders. She then soon reached her Father's Dominions, where she spent some Years in Privacy and Retirement.

HENRY's Party was entirely sunk and ruined by this last Misfortune of their King. The most considerable Noblemen attached to his Interest, quitted the Kingdom, and retired into the Duke of Burgundy's Territories ; where soon after their Arrival, and before it was known who they were, as the Alliance that had lately taken Place between King Edward and the Duke rendered this Concealment necessary, they suffered all the Extremities of Want and Poverty. Philip de Commines, who himself saw them in this Condition, says " That Beggars who sued for Alms, were " not so poor as these Refugees : " He observed amongst others the Duke

Duke of Exeter on Foot, without Shoes or Stockings, following the Train of the Duke of Burgundy, and unknown, begging from Door to Door. This Duke learnt, by sad Experience, that the Quality of a Prince did not exempt him from the Miseries of human Nature; and the Calamities that attended the royal House of Lancaster, were the most extraordinary Instances of the Vicissitudes of Fortune, that are to be met with in the British Annals.

To point out such Distresses as the particular Judgments of Heaven, is both illiberal and unwarrantable. Some of the Unfortunate we are speaking of, appear

to be involved in them, without having been guilty of any Acts of Inhumanity; as Henry and his Son the Prince of Wales, who were certainly deserving of a better Fate. But a careful Observer of Events will frequently see, that flagrant Vices are punished by some remarkable Strokes of Wretchedness, and bad Dispositions made sensible of the Evils they bring on Others. Most of the Principals in this domestic War, where Father often fought against Son, and which was carried on with insatiate Rapine, hasty Executions, and uncommon Cruelties, are Examples of the Truth of my Remark. Margaret, whose ruling Passion was the
love

love of Power, regardless of the Propriety with which she attained it, for the unjust Methods she took to secure it, found her favourite Wish ungratified. The very Means she made Use of, contributed to her Fall; driven from that Throne on which she placed all her Happiness, after a Series of unparalleled Troubles, she ended her Days in Obscurity. The whole York Family also, by unquiet Lives, and untimely Deaths, attoned for the Devastations and Murders they had occasioned.

LORD Warwick was so impatient to return to London, where his Thoughts had been continually centered, that he left his Brother

to disperse the broken Remains of the Enemy, and hastened back. On his Arrival he was received by the King with the strongest Demonstrations of Friendship and Esteem. He also had the Pleasure to find that his lovely Countess took no small Share in his Glory and safe Return. The tender Letters he frequently wrote her, and his Praises, which she heard from every Mouth, so far overcame her Severity, that she could not hide from him her Sensibility of his great Merit. She accordingly gave him up her Heart, as far as was consistent with the Delicacy of her Sentiments.

DURING

DURING the Earl's Absence, the Countess had been so much on her Guard, that Edward could not get Access to her, though his Passion continued as violent as ever; and an Affair soon after happened that further secured her from his Solicitations.

THE King being one Day hunting in Northamptonshire, the Chace led him near Grafton Castle, the Seat of Jaquelina de Luxembourg, Dowager of the late Duke of Bedford, Regent of France. This Lady, who was Sister to Peter of Luxembourg, Count de St. Pol, notwithstanding the Lustre of her Birth, and though her Alliance was sought
for

for by some of the most illustrious Families both in France and England, had condescended to marry Sir Richard Woodville, then only a private Gentleman, though afterwards created Earl Rivers. By him she had several Children, and among them a Daughter, named Elizabeth, who was remarkable for the Grace and Beauty of her Person, as well as for other valuable Accomplishments. This young Lady married Sir John Gray, of Groby, by whom she had Children; but her Husband being killed in the second Battle of St. Alban's, fighting for the House of Lancaster, his Estate was for that Reason confiscated, and his Widow retired to live with

LADY ANNE NEVILLE. 111

with her Mother at her Country Seat.

As Chance had brought the King so near the Residence of the Duchess, he was induced by that Respect which was her Due, to pay her a Visit. This Occasion appearing favourable for obtaining some Grace from this gallant Monarch, the young Widow threw herself at his Feet, and intreated him to have Pity on her Children, who suffered for the Imprudence of their Father. The Sight of so much Beauty in Affliction strongly affected the amorous Edward; Love stole insensibly into his Heart, and he raised her from
the

112 The HISTORY of
the Ground with Assurances of
Favour.

THE King, on his Return, talked to his Brother the Duke of Gloucester, and Lord Warwick, who attended him, in Raptures of the fair Elizabeth; and for a Time the Charms of the Countess of Devonshire held but a second Place in his Breast. However mysterious it might appear, a Heart so susceptible as that of Edward, was capable of entertaining a violent Inclination, or, as it is misnamed, Love, for several * Females at the same Time.

* Among the Number of these was Jane Shore, whose Virtues, whose Frail-

LADY ANNE NEVILLE. 113

Time. Accustomed to receive
the tender Impression, every new
Beauty

ties, and whose Sufferings, are immortalized
by the pathetic Pen of Row. This Lady
was born of reputable Parents in London;
was well educated, and married to a substan-
tial Citizen; but Interest only being con-
sulted in the Match, she could not withstand
the Arts and Address of the handsome Ed-
ward, who was received into the Houses
of his Subjects on the most familiar Footing.
The King raised her to a respectable Situation,
worthy the Favourite of a potent Monarch;
where she had an Opportunity of indulging
the natural Benevolence of her Heart. With-
out Solicitation, she protected the Oppressed,
relieved the Indigent, and discouraged Ca-
lunmy and Detraction. But these Virtues
could not secure her from a dreadful Down-
fall; or the many good Offices she had done
to others, procure her one grateful Return
when overwhelmed with Distresses. The in-
human Duke of Gloucester, during his Pro-
tectorship, and whilst he plotted the De-

Beauty raised new Desires, and
left for a while its Traces, though
not

struction of his Nephew, Edward the Fifth, ordered the Goods of Jane Shore to be seized, and summoned her before the Council for practising Sorcery and Enchantment: This he did to carry on the Farce of his Accusations against Lord Hastings, and some other Noblemen, whose Fidelity to the late King's lawful Successors he could not corrupt; and whom, on that Account, he had also charged with the same Crime. As no Proofs could be produced that were satisfactory, though the slightest ones would have been deemed sufficient, Richard was obliged to have Recourse to another Method, and ordered her to be tried in the Spiritual Court for Adultery and Lewdness. Here he was more successful; for she was sentenced to do Penance in a white Sheet at St. Paul's, before the whole People. This, however dreadful to a delicate Mind, as Jane Shore's, notwithstanding her Errors, appears to have been, was but Part of her Sorrows: For deprived

not deep ones, on his Mind: Much unlike a real, delicate, sentimental Love, which is confined to one Object, and whose chief Ingredient is Constancy.

THE King found an Excuse to visit her again in a few Days, and declared

of that Property, which Edward's Fondness had bestowed upon her, she lived not only to feel the Bitterness of Shame, through the Persecutions of a barbarous Tyrant, but to languish out her Life in Solitude, oppressed with Age and Poverty. Nor could her many good Actions atone for her Frailties in the Estimation of a Court inured to the most atrocious Crimes, and blind only to their own Faults; or protect her from unprecedented Violations of Friendship. So true it is, that with the Generality of Mankind, a Reverse of Fortune obliterates every Obligation, and gives Birth to Censure, Ingratitude and Malevolence.

declared his Passion ; but the Lady either displeased with his Addresses from virtuous Motives, as she supposed them to be dishonourable, or perceiving that the Impression she had made, was so deep as to give her Hopes of the highest Elevation, told his Majesty with an Air of Modesty which rivetted his Chains the faster, that she begged he would desist from any further Importunity, as her Virtue would never permit her to be his Mistress, and her Fortune was not exalted enough to entitle her to a Throne. “ I
“ disclose, (continued she) to your
“ Majesty at once, what another
“ perhaps would not have told
“ you till after many Months;
“ but

“but I shall have at least the Satisfaction not to amuse you with vain Hopes.” Edward pleased with her Frankness, and irritated by Opposition, gave her a Promise of Marriage; on which the Duchess her Mother removed with her Family to London, that his Majesty might carry on his Addresses with the greater Facility.

THIS Connection of the King could not escape the jealous Eye of Lady Elizabeth Lucie, who failed not to load him with Reproaches, and took every Method to detach him from his new Favourite. The fair Widow also in her Turn, soon received Intelligence

telligence of this dangerous Rival, and of her Power over the King; she therefore thought it necessary to gain Lord Warwick, his Favourite and Confidant, to her Interest. As she was a Woman of Penetration and pleasing Manners, this was soon accomplished; and giving the Earl particular Marks of her Esteem and Confidence, she won his Favour. The first Proof of Friendship she exacted from him was, that he would give her a candid Account of the different Engagements Edward was under; by which she might be the better enabled to carry on her ambitious Views, and secure his Heart: The former Motive she did not disclose, and in the latter the

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the Earl readily assisted her. In his List he did not omit the Countess of Devonshire, assuring her that notwithstanding the King's present Ardour for herself, that Lady held the chief Station in his Breast. His Lordship's own Interest prompted him to make this Discovery; and as often as he observed any Relapses of Tenderness, he gave Lady Gray Information of it, who sometimes by Tears, sometimes by Threats of returning again into the Country, kept him steady to his Vows. All this was done so seasonably, that the King took the greatest Care to conceal his Inconstancy from her, though at the same Time he was no less assiduous in his Designs

signs on Lady Devonshire. Notwithstanding Lord Warwick was thus doubly secured from Edward's Rivalship, yet he could not prevent him from frequently writing to her by the Assistance of Albina, whose avaricious Disposition still secured her to his Interest. Some of his Letters contained the Language of a Lover, others that of a Sovereign, but all that of a King full of Passion, and unused to Opposition. But the Deserts of the Earl of Warwick had made so lively an Impression on her Heart, that all his Majesty's Endeavours to banish him thence were ineffectual, or to dispel the Dejection that was
con-

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consequently visible in her lovely Countenance.

THIS Alteration in the Countess, who sought Opportunities of being alone, to indulge those corroding Thoughts that continually preyed on her Mind, and would not be silent, could not escape the watchful Eye of her Mother, Lady Anglesea. She took her therefore one Day into the Grotto, where they were in no Danger of being interrupted, and after Assurances of her Affection, and Readiness to relieve her from the Uneasiness that was so conspicuous, desired to be informed of the Cause of it. Lady Devonshire, who knew her Mother was a Woman of great

Sense and Penetration, but at the same Time positive in her Opinions, was at a Loss what Answer to give. Innocent and blameless as her Love for Lord Warwick was, her Heart would not consent to give him up, as a Confession would for ever deprive her of the Pleasure of seeing and hearing from him; but her Mother expecting an Answer, she immediately formed a Resolution to lay her Unhappiness to the King's Account. She therefore threw herself at her Feet, and begging her Pardon for so long concealing an Affair of such Importance, told her, that his Majesty was continually teasing her with Letters, and that the most rigorous
Treat-

LADY ANNE NEVILLE. 123

Treatment of him, had no other Effect, than to increase his Solicitations, and provoke his Anger. The Countess then put his Majesty's last Letter, with her Answer into Lady Anglesea's Hand, wherein he had threatened, that he would no longer preserve a proper Decorum, unless she permitted him to visit her. The old Lady having perused it, embraced her Daughter, and with Tears of Joy congratulated herself on having so prudent and virtuous a Child. She then praised the young Countess, for not suffering the Passion of so amiable a Monarch, to make an Impression either on her Tenderness or Vanity.

WHILST they were indulging their Tears, the Earls of Anglesea and Devonshire entered the Grotto. They were surprized to find the Ladies in this Agitation; and enquiring the Cause, the Countess of Anglesea judged it most prudent to reveal to them her Daughter's Situation and Unhappiness. She knew that Lord Devonshire had already conceived some Jealousy at the King's accidental Meeting with his Lady in the Forest, and was apprehensive of Detection if she endeavoured to conceal Edward's consequent Attempts; she therefore, without Hesitation, desired him to read the Letters, which would convince him of his Lady's
Prudence

Prudence and Firmness. His Lordship took them with an apparent Composure; but the Alteration in his Countenance as he read them, sufficiently discovered the Perturbation of his Mind. He however told Lady Anglesea, that he never questioned his Wife's Conduct, knowing the Sincerity and good Inclinations of her Heart; and that he esteemed it an Action worthy of herself, to prefer her Duty to all the Grandeur and imaginary Happiness a King could bestow. The Earl of Anglesea, in his Turn, expressed the greatest Satisfaction at his Daughter's Prudence; which had such an Effect on the Countess, that she secretly blamed herself

for not sacrificing the Earl of Warwick in the same Manner she had done the King; at once cleansing her Mind from every Imputation of Guilt—Alas! the Heart enveloped in the Net of Love, struggles in vain to free itself from its entangled, but pleasing, Situation.

THOUGH the Earl of Devonshire appeared satisfied at his Lady's Conduct, yet he thought it necessary to remove her from the Solicitations of her royal Lover: He therefore desired Lady Anglesea would take the Countess with her to Twickenham, where she had a Country Seat. This she consented to, and Preparations were

were made for their Departure with the greatest Secrefy.

LADY Devonshire, notwithstanding the Proof she had just given of her Openness and Candour, could not hear of this sudden Removal without being greatly afflicted. She uttered her Complaints to Albina, but forbid her to discover them to Lord Warwick ; being determined in future to bury her Love in her own Breast. The treacherous Governante paying but little Regard to her Mistress's Orders, immediately informed the Earl of every Thing that had passed ; and at the same Time told him, there was no Possibility of his taking

Leave of the Countess. Distracted at the Thought, he instantly wrote her a Letter full of Tenderness, and earnest Solicitations for one Moment's Liberty to bid her Adieu. Though Lady Devonshire, in her Heart rejoiced at the Proposal, yet Prudence forbid her allowing him an Interview; but Albina, with her usual Art, opposing her Lady's Reluctance, Love enforced her Arguments, and she prevailed.

THE Countess's Consent was soon conveyed to the Earl, who received the Permission with Rapture, and cursing the tardy Night, waited with Impatience for its Approach. It no sooner arrived,
than

than wrapt in his Cloak, and attended only by his faithful Berincour, he was at the Garden Gate. He had before, by the Assistance of the Governess, procur'd a Key, but not being properly made, on the first Trial it broke in the Lock. No Method now remained but to mount the Wall, which he executed in an Instant, and was just on the Point of leaping into the Garden, when he saw a Number of People with Flambeaux, who appeared to be searching after something that was lost. The Fact was, Lady Anglesea had mislaid the Portrait of the late Duchess of York, the King's Mother, which she wore constantly on her Arm in Re-

G 5 remembrance

membrance of that Lady: She had not missed it till after it was dark; and having caused all the Apartments to be examined without Success, she ordered the Walks of the Garden to be searched, lest the Weight of the Gold and Diamonds should sink it in the Sand. Some of the Domesticks, who were not equally intent on their Business, happening to look upwards, espied the Earl just ready to leap down; and not doubting but that he was a Robber, called out to their Companions. Lord Warwick had no Time to deliberate; he found he was obliged to retreat in the best Manner possible; but as his Gentleman was retired to some Distance from the Wall,

not

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not expecting the Earl so soon, he was forced to descend without his Assistance. His Haste occasioned him to fall; however he got off, and returned to his House greatly vexed at seeing his Measures thus broken.

BUT he did not escape without Suspicion; for in his tumble he dropped a Locket, containing a miniature Picture, which he wore by a Ribband in his Bosom. This, one of the Servants picked up just without the Gate, and delivered it to the Earl of Devonshire, who on a minute Examination perceived a secret Spring, which he had no sooner touched than it flew open, and presented

to his View the Portraiture of his own Lady. The Suspicions that had just arisen from the broken Key were now confirmed, and he no longer doubted but that it was some Enemy to his Peace who had descended from the Wall. This Incident hastened the Execution of his Lordship's Plan, and he set out before Day-light for the Country, carrying with him a Load of Jealousy and Uneasiness.

THE Countess, on her Part, was not more at Ease: Albina had informed her of the Earl of Warwick's Failure in his Attempt, and of the Discovery of the Picture, which she had learnt from the Servant that found it. The
Purity

Purity of her Heart could not support her under the Apprehensions of Detection, nor could she banish from her Mind the Fears that arose of being continually subject to her Husband's Suspicions. Often did she lament her Imprudence in yielding to the first Assignment, and blame herself for suffering the Earl's great Qualities to make so deep an Impression on her Mind. She upbraided Albina with taking Advantage of her Youth and Inexperience, to induce her to a Compliance which would inevitably destroy all her future Felicity; and with Fervour she declared, that notwithstanding her Inclinations were by this Means fixed
on

on Lord Warwick, she would not save his Life by one criminal Sigh. Thus she continued to bewail her unhappy Fate, whilst her Mother and Husband, having since this Discovery formed an unfavourable Opinion of her Virtue, treated her with Rigour.

THIS sudden Departure of the Countess greatly displeased the King; that Vanity which his personal Accomplishments—his commanding Station—and the different Reception he had been accustomed to meet with from the rest of her Sex, inspired, prompted him to conclude, that she treated him with Incivility, and uncommon Severity. Tho' his Passion

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sion was not diminished by this Treatment, yet his Pride was piqued; and he became the more assiduous in his Courtship to Lady Gray, who grew so intoxicated at his Majesty's increased Ardour, that without the least Regard to her best Friends, she sacrificed them all to her Humour and Interest. From a Desire to please the King, and acquire his favourable Opinion, she betrayed the Secrets imparted to her by the Earl of Warwick, and shewed him his Lordship's Letters which contained proofs of his Duplicity; imputing the many Reproaches she had loaded him with, and that Decrease of Respect and Tenderneſs, which had lately appeared in her Conduct, entirely to the

the Earl's Suggestions. Edward too plainly saw that his Friend had been a formidable Rival to him with the lovely Countess; and that it was through his Means he had been unsuccessful in his Addresses.

FROM this Moment Jealousy entered the Breast of the King, and he began to view his Friend and Confidant with a much less favourable Eye. An Alteration of Sentiments on both Sides took Place about this Time, which increased to an Enmity that terminated in War and Bloodshed. It is asserted by some Historians, that Lord Warwick was supplanted by Edward in his Love for Lady Gray,

Gray, to whom he was engaged before his Majesty had seen her; and that this was the Foundation of their Disagreement; whilst others omitting this Circumstance, impute it to the public Affront offered to the Earl by the King in marrying Elizabeth whilst he was sent to treat of a Marriage for him with Bona of Savoy, Sister to the Queen of France.

WHICH was the true Cause, is uncertain; this Rivalship between them on Account of Lady Devonshire, appears equally probable: Perhaps all these Circumstances combined, brought about an Event so fatal to the English Nation. A respectable * Author says,
 “ There

* Hume.

“ There is no Part of English
“ History since the Conquest, so
“ obscure, so uncertain, so little
“ authentic or consistent, as that
“ of the Wars between the two
“ Roses. Historians differ about
“ many material Circumstances;
“ and some Events of the utmost
“ Consequence, in which they al-
“ most all agree, are incredible,
“ and contradicted by Records.
“ There may even some Scruple
“ arise with Regard to the Pro-
“ posals of Marriage made to Bo-
“ na of Savoy; though almost all
“ Authors concur in it, and the
“ fact is very likely in itself; for
“ there are no Traces in Rymer,
“ of any such Embassy of War-
“ wick's to France; and the chief
“ Certainty

“ Certainty ‘in the Reigns of
 “ Henry and Edward, arises from
 “ the public Records.” In this
 Uncertainty, an Author must ex-
 ercise his Discretion and Judg-
 ment, recording only those Facts,
 that appear from their Plausibility
 and Connection, most deserving of
 Credit.

THE Earl of Warwick did not
 at first observe the Alteration in
 the King; for unable to bear a
 Separation from the Woman he
 so tenderly loved, his whole At-
 tention was taken up in forming
 Schemes to obtain an Interview
 with her. He had a Palace at
 Chelsea, adorned with all the
 Beauties that both Nature and
 Art

Art could furnish. Its delightful Situation on the Banks of the Thames, and the Care he bestowed upon it, rendered it one of the most magnificent Places in the World, and worthy of its great Proprietor. For the Embellishment of the Gardens, he had obtained from France the Plans and Designs of that celebrated Gardener who had the Management of those famous Ones near Vincennes, belonging to Agnes Sorrell, Mistress to King Charles the Seventh. Two Gardeners were at the same Time sent him to execute the Plan; and they had nearly compleated them, when the Duchess of Norfolk, Sister to the Countess of Devonshire, sent

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sent to the Earl, desiring he would spare one of the Frenchmen to lay out some Gardens for her. Lord Warwick, with his usual Politeness, granted her Request; and finding, whilst he was in this Dilemma, that the Man, having finished his Work for the Duchess, was employed by her Mother at Twickenham, it immediately struck him, that the Fellow might be made serviceable to him in his Designs on the Countess of Devonshire. Instructions were accordingly given him; and in Pursuance of them, on his desiring Lady Anglesea to allow him an Assistant of his own Country, who best understood his Mode of working, Berincour being a Frenchman,

was

was sent to assist him. To his Care the Earl committed a Letter filled with the Effusions of his Love, to be delivered through the Negotiation of Albina, to the Countess; but this he was prevented from doing for some Time, the Governess being indisposed, and keeping her Room. Great was Lord Warwick's Impatience at this Delay, but all his Power could not avail in an Affair that required so much Secresy.

WHILST he was employed in this Scheme, and inattentive to the Transactions at Court, both the King and Lady Gray were greatly exasperated with him; the former for his want of Sincerity,
and

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and Boldness in becoming his Rival ; the latter at being made his Dupe, when he covered his Designs on the Countess under a Zeal for her Interest. To such a Height was Edward's Anger against his Friend raised, by the continual Insinuations of an offended Woman, who had now acquired great Power over him, that he determined to forbid him the Court, and order him to retire to his Seat at Middleham.

SEVERAL Motives conspired to forbid this severe Treatment : The Earl's unbounded Power ought to have alarmed the King's Apprehensions, whilst the Existence of the Lancastrian Faction rendered

rendered his Throne infecure: He should also have retained a just Sense of the Obligations he lay under to his Lordship, as the greatest Proofs of his Favour were not sufficient to repay them: And that Friendship, which had for many Years bound them together, was not the most forcible Plea: All these Considerations should have induced him to give up an Affair of Gallantry to a Man who had such Claims upon him, and from whom he had so much to fear. . But to a Person who made Gallantry the Business of his Life, and saw not Danger till it came upon him, these Reasons had little or no Weight; especially as they were prevented from having

ing

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ing a due Effect on his Mind, by the malevolent Suggestions of a Lady he wished to please.

HERBERT, Earl of Pembroke, was next in Eminence to Lord Warwick, and shared with him Edward's Confidence. He was young and handsome, nor was he excelled in Magnificence by any of the English Nobles. The King fixed on Lord Pembroke to convey his Commands to Warwick: At the same Time he informed him of the Cause of his Displeasure, and gave him the Letters that had been written by the Earl to Lady Gray, as a Confirmation of his Guilt. But what was this Lord's Amazement when

he found from his Commission, that Two of the most accomplished Persons in the Kingdom were his Rivals; for he also had by Accident seen Lady Devonshire, and could not defend himself against the Force of her Beauty; as indeed few could, that had a Heart disengaged, or made of “penetrable Stuff.”

To give a Description of this dangerous fair One is needless, as every Reader will instantly form one in his own Imagination the most agreeable to his Fancy; and Ten to One if the Picture I draw corresponds with his Taste in every Respect, as there is no fixed Criterion for Beauty: However,
let

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let him not forget to add to a lovely Face, a Shape where Ease and Dignity disputed for Pre-eminence, and a Softness in her Manner that imperceptibly stole away the entranced Observer's Heart; whilst an amiable and virtuous Conduct dignified the Whole, and made her Charms irresistible.

THE Earl of Pembroke endeavoured to conceal his Sentiments from the King, to whom he perceived the Object of his own Love was far from indifferent; and hastened away to the Earl of Warwick. Hitherto he had been the trusty and affectionate Friend of that Nobleman: But what an

H 2

Alter-

Alteration does Love make ! How weak are the Pleas of Friendship, Honour, or even Interest, when they stand in Competition with it ? He found all his Generosity necessary to enable him to espouse, at this Juncture, the Benefit of the Earl ; and perhaps he would not have done it, had not his Master's Passion for the Countess threatened him with greater Danger.

HIS Lordship, in pursuance of the Orders he had received from the King, told the Earl, that it was unnecessary for him to attempt to justify himself, or to disown the Fact of which he was accused, as he was empowered to
produce

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produce convincing Proofs of his Passion for the Countess, and of his Breach of Faith to his Friend and Master ; who in consequence was become his Enemy, and commanded him to set out immediately for his Castle at Middleham. The Earl, enraged at the Sight of the Letters he had sent Lady Gray, was convinced that she had sacrificed him to her private Views ; but scorning to vent his Indignation against a Woman, though a perfidious One, he turned his Anger towards a Person more worthy of it. His natural Haughtiness, and Pride of Spirit could scarcely brook a Superior, even in a King ; he therefore, with a steady Dignity, re-

H 3 turned

turned this Answer to the Earl
of Pembroke: “ I respect the
“ King as my Sovereign and as
“ my Master, and I might say
“ without Vanity, that but for
“ me he had perhaps been neither.
“ I loved the Countess of Devon-
“ shire before I was acquainted
“ with his Majesty’s Passion for
“ her; and when he did me the
“ Honour to make me his Confi-
“ dant, it was too late for me to
“ hope for a Cure. Lady Gray, I
“ see, has taken Pains to make the
“ King my Enemy, but I fear not
“ his Threats; and as for renoun-
“ cing my Passion, all the united
“ Powers on Earth shall never
“ compel me to do it. As I have
“ ever loved the King, I will sub-
“ mit

LADY ANNE NEVILLE. 151

“ mit to his Commands, and re-
“ tire to my castle at Middleham,
“ where I can indulge my melan-
“ choly Thoughts uninterrupted,
“ which at present constitutes the
“ only Pleasure I know.”

LORD Pembroke begged him to
soften his Answer, and by making
proper Submission restore himself
to the King's Favour; but this he
would by no means do, as he had
never given Edward any just
Cause of Offence, and had nothing
wherewith to reproach himself.

THE Earl of Warwick set out
for Yorkshire with so much Pre-
cipitation, that he would not stay
to take Leave of his Brothers the

Marquis of Montague, and the Archbishop of York. He was apprehensive that they would fan the Flame which was just kindled in his Breast against the King, and excite him to Revenge. As yet that Friendship and Esteem which he had always entertained for Edward, from an early Union, and a Similarity of Sentiment and Temper, had received very little Diminution: He was vexed at the Interruption of his Love, which he imputed to the Influence of Lady Gray, and hoped that his Majesty's Anger would be only temporary.

BERINCOUR, who had been sent by the Earl to Twickenham, in the

the Character of a Gardener, to deliver his Letter to the Countess; was obliged to wear his Disguise for several Weeks, on Account of Albina's Illness; during which, thro' the Imprudence of his Companion, he was betrayed to Lord Devonshire. He had just executed his Commission, and received an Answer that would have given his Master great Satisfaction, (tho' procured by the Intreaties of the Governess,) when he was counteracted by the Earl of Devonshire, and the Chevalier Hereford, who was his Visiter; to whom his Lordship had discovered his Jealousy, with the Cause of it. Berincour, overjoyed at having succeeded so far as to procure a Let-

ter from the Countess, though he knew not the Purport of it, was retiring to Bed early, that he might proceed on his Journey as soon as it was light, when a Servant, by Lord Devonshire's Orders, conveyed some Opium into his Wine. It no sooner had the desired Effect, than the Chevalier Hereford took from him the Letters, and delivered them to his Friend. The packet was large, as the Countess, with her Answer, had inclosed all those that she had received from Lord Warwick; not caring to keep them in her Possession, or having Resolution enough to burn them. This betrayed the whole Secret to her Husband, who was on the Point
of

of dragging the unfortunate Messenger to the Countess, and sacrificing him before her Face; but his Friend the Chevalier restrained him, and moderated his Passion. They then proceeded to a Consultation on the proper Methods to be pursued; when it was agreed to suppress Lady Devonshire's Answer, which contained Tenderness mingled with Discretion and Virtue, and substitute one in its Room, full of Indifference and Severity; such as could not fail to excite the same Sensations in Lord Warwick. This was done; and in the Morning, though somewhat later than he intended, Berincour set out for Yorkshire.

THE Earl of Warwick, who had devoted his Time entirely to the Contemplation of his lovely Mistress, and had counted the tedious Hours of his Exile, with eager Expectation snatched the Letter from his Messenger's Hand: But how was he amazed to find it contained so harsh and undeserved an Answer! For some Time he could scarcely credit his Senses; however at last (after many a violent Struggle between Love and Indifference, which like the Com-bustions that agitate the burning Etna rent his noble Breast) urged by Vexation, though unable to conquer his Passion, he formed the Resolution of returning to London, and by engaging in some
new

new Amour, endeavour to banish his present Disquietude from his mind.

IN the mean time the Earl of Devonshire inflamed with Jealousy, gave the Lady frequent Proofs of it by a rigid and severe Behaviour. His friend the Chevalier Hereford strove to augment it; not from an Excess of Friendship to his Lordship, but from Hatred to Lord Warwick: For having through his Intimacy in the Family, constant Opportunities of seeing Lady Devonshire, and as to see was to admire and adore, he could not secure his Heart from the extensive Influence of her Beauty. The Earl of Warwick therefore appeared

peared to him a Rival much to be dreaded; and though the Countess's Letter, which he had intercepted, was written with a great Deal of Reserve, yet the penetrating Eye of a Lover discovered too many Signs of a concealed Affection in it. Enraged at the Discovery, he alarmed, every Hour, the Apprehensions of Lord Devonshire; which were not of themselves inconsiderable, as he had two such engaging and accomplished Cavaliers as the King, and Lord Warwick, to guard against. Lady Anglesea, who was now become a Party against her Daughter, kept a strict Watch over her; and by continual Upbraidings, and prudential Lectures added to Lord Devonshire's

vonshire's Frowns, made the Countess's Life unhappy.

BUT all these Restraints would have only served to increase her Love for Lord Warwick, had not the Chevalier Hereford, by an Artifice he made use of, at the Expence of his Honour and Veracity, much lessened her good Opinion of him. The Earl, in pursuance of his Plan, had returned to London; and by an affected Chearfulness which banished the King's Suspicions, procured his Pardon. He then publickly entered into another Connection in which his Heart had no Share, to revenge the supposed Fickleness of the Countess.

INTEL-

INTELLIGENCE of this Alteration in his Lordship was soon sent to the Earl of Devonshire, who failed not to read these Accounts before his Lady. But this served only to increase his own Chagrin, as she could not hide the painful Emotions the News of her Lover's Infidelity gave her. She happened at that Time to be working a curious Piece of Embroidery; the blue Jonquils, and yellow Violets betrayed her Inattention, and the Confusion of her mind.

THIS however was only a Prelude to their Scheme; for the next Day, before Reason and Hope had calmed the Countess's Agitations, the Chevalier accosted her as she
was

was walking alone in the Garden ; and under Pretence of great Concern for her Reputation and Happiness, told her, he was sorry to be the Means of giving her Disquiet, but that he could not conceal from her the Imprudence of the Earl of Warwick ; who not only boasted of being beloved by her, but had the Audacity to shew her Letters as Proofs of it : One of which having by Accident fallen into his Hands, he thought he should be wanting in Friendship and Respect, if he did not restore it to her. The Countess at first, judged this Address to be only a Design to fathom her Sentiments concerning that Lord ; but no sooner did she see her own Writing

ing, than every Mark of Confusion, and Indignation, overspread her lovely Countenance. By Turns she vied with the pale Lilley, and the blushing Rose; and with difficulty kept herself from fainting. At length summoning all her Resolution, and supported by her Innocence, she told the Chevalier, that her Intentions in writing that Billet were too sincere and unblemished to render a Disavowal of it needful; and that she was conscious, on the strictest Scrutiny, it would rather turn to her Honour than Disgrace; but that at the same Time, it made her sensible of the ungenerous Conduct of Lord Warwick, which she would from that Moment repay

pay with Contempt and Indifference.

No sooner was the Chevalier departed to give an Account of his Success to Lord Devonshire, than the Countess retired to an adjacent Arbour, and by a flood of Tears, which she had till now with Difficulty restrained, gave some Relief to her bursting Heart. Fain would she have found some palliating Circumstances to soften the Accusation, and restore the Earl to her good Opinion; but such an incontrovertible Proof of his Infidelity, prevented even the warmest Suggestions of Tenderneſs from having any Weight. After a violent Conſt of the Paſſions,
which

which lasted a considerable Time, Prudence remained apparently triumphant; whilst Love, yielding to the Torrent, hid his Head, vanquished, but not dismayed; too well he knew the Hour would soon return when he should again be able to assert his Empire over her Heart.

LORD Devonshire did not find his Uneasiness lessened by this Acknowledgment of his Lady, or her consequent Resolution never to think of Lord Warwick more; and it required the utmost Efforts of his Friend, to prevent his taking some furious Resolutions; but he restrained them, till another Incident

cident excited his Jealousy a new,
and made it ungovernable.

LORD Pembroke's Love for the Countess was not in the least abated by that Deprivation which the secluded Life she led at Twickenham, occasioned. Finding the Earl of Warwick's whole Attention centered in his new Connection, he laid a Plan for carrying off Lady Devonshire to one of his Castles, by personating his Lordship; who he was assured enjoyed the greatest Share of her Affection. Though the Success of this Scheme appeared doubtful, yet every Improbability dissolves before the warm Imagination of a Lover; and the Chance
of

of some Circumstances happening in his Favour, warrants the rashest Attempts. His Lordship had caused a small Vessel to be built, and ornamented after the Turkish Manner, and all the Mariners to be dressed like the Inhabitants of that Country; that the Novelty of the Sight might surprize, and be the less liable to Suspicion. When he found Lord Devonshire and the Earl of Anglesea were in London, attending at Court, he disguised himself in the same Habit as his Men, and sailing up the River, moored opposite their House. He then sent his Interpreter to invite the Countesses aboard, to view the curious Silks and Carpets he had

to

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to dispose of. Lady Anglesea happening to be confined by a slight Indisposition to her Room, the Countess of Devonshire was permitted to go on board, attended by some of her Women. Whilst her Attention was engaged in looking at some beautiful Silks, the Sails were hoisted, and the Bark made down the River at a great Rate. Her Ladyship at length perceived the Motion of the Ship; and expressing her Surprize, was told by the disguised Earl, that the Emperor, his Master, having heard of her Beauty, had sent him to convey her to his Seraglio. The Lady, unapprehensive of Danger, smiled at the Conceit; but her Smiles were soon turned
into

into Tears; for the Vessel continuing to proceed with the same Velocity, she was greatly alarmed, and insisted on being set on shore. Lord Pembroke then in a Whisper, begged her not to be uneasy, for it was to the Earl of Warwick she was conveying, who could no longer live without her. At hearing his Name all her Resentment was aroused; the Dread of losing her Reputation, which must be the Consequence of so public an Attempt on her Honour, inspired her with Resolution to preserve it at the Expence of her Life. Therefore, whilst his Lordship was on his Knees intreating her to be pacified, she threw herself over the
Side

Side of the Vessel into the River. The Earl, alarmed for a Life that was so dear to him, in a Moment leaped in after her, and by the Assistance of the Mariners got her unhurt into the Ship; but struck with her Magnanimity, and finding from it, that neither Persuasion or Force would influence her to deviate from her Duty, he ordered the Vessel to be put about, and landed her with the utmost Expedition.

THE Countess retired to her Chamber without seeing her Mother, whose Upbraidings her Mind was not in a Situation to bear. When she found herself attended only by her Confidante Albina, she

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gave

gave way to her Tears ; lamenting her unhappy Situation, that even the Innocence of her Heart, and the Purity of her Intentions, could not secure her from the Attempts of her Lovers, and the Suspicions of her Husband. She often wished that Nature had been less liberal of her Favours to her, as they subjected her to these continual Anxieties and Perturbations. But amidst all her Bewailings she found that she could not cease to love Lord Warwick ; his Image arrayed in all his glorious Deeds and enchanting Qualifications, intruded itself notwithstanding her firmest Resolutions, and disarmed her of her Resentment.

THE

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THE Earl of Pembroke, vexed that his Plan had proved abhor-
tive, and unwilling to draw on
himself the public Censure, sailed
down the Stream, and landing on
the opposite Shore, ordered the
Bark to be set on Fire. By this
Means the Secret remained in his
own Breast; the Attendants on
such Occasions being always kept
silent by the Dread of their Lord's
Displeasure.

AN Attempt of this Kind com-
mitted in the Day, and in the
Sight of the neighbouring Villa-
gers, could not escape the babling
Tongue of Scandal; it soon reach-
ed the Court, but the Perpetrators
remained unknown. However,

those that were acquainted with Lord Warwick's late Affection for the Countess, supposed it proceeded from a Revival of his Tenderness. The Earl of Devonshire, who had before received from the Letters, such convincing Proofs of that Lord's Passion for his Wife, doubted not but that the Insult was given by him; especially as the King's Attention at that Time, seemed entirely engrossed by Lady Gray. He therefore in Defence of his Honour, determined to challenge the Earl of Warwick, and as the Affront was public, to receive a public Satisfaction.

THEY met by Accident the same Day, when the Earl of Devonshire

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Devonshire unable to restrain his Choler, struck Lord Warwick in the Face with his Gauntlet. It is not to be supposed, that the bravest and haughtiest of Men could brook such an Outrage; their Swords were in a Moment drawn, and so great was their Fury, that a few Moments more would have ended their Animosity with their Lives, had not some Friends that were present rushed between, and obliged them to postpone their Resentment. Agreeable to the Custom of the Times, they should have entered the Lists, and in the Face of the World have decided their Quarrel; but fearing that the King should prevent their Vengeance, by putting them under an

Arrest, and unwilling to defer their Vengeance, they agreed to meet in the Evening at Barn-Elms, attended by their Seconds. The Earl of Warwick brought with him his Brother the Marquis of Montague; Lord Devonshire his Friend the Chevalier Hereford.

LONG and obstinate must be the Combat between Four of the most compleat Warriors of the Age; for the Seconds then shared in the Quarrel of the Principals. At last it ended in Favour of the Brothers; the Earl of Devonshire, and the Chevalier, being left breathless on the Field. The former fell a Sacrifice to his hasty
and

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and ungovernable Jealousy; for as his Lady could not prevent the Attempts of her Lovers, but rejected them with all the Haughtiness superior Virtue inspired, though unfortunate, she did not deserve Reproach. The latter received the Reward of his Perfidy, and the Deception he had practised on the Countess, when under a Pretence of Friendship, he made an ungenerous Use of the Letter which he had procured by Stealth. Lord Warwick escaped with only a Wound in his Arm; but the Marquis received so many dangerous ones, that his Life was despaired of: He was conveyed with difficulty to his Brother's House at Chelsea, where the Earl con-

tinued with him till he was out of Danger.

IN the mean Time the King, who supposed Lord Warwick guilty of the Attempt on Lady Devonshire, was greatly exasperated with him, for this fresh Instance of Disobedience and Diffimulation. His Majesty found not his Love for that Lady in the least abated; therefore when he was informed of the fatal Effects of the Earl's continued Attachment, and that he had not only robbed Lord Devonshire of his Peace, but also of his Life, he was incensed against him to the highest Degree. Lady Gray laid hold of this favourable Opportunity to increase

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crease Edward's Anger towards his Lordship, to whom she was now become an avowed Enemy, having several Causes of Complaint against him. She was not only offended with him for making her his Dupe; but she had discovered that he endeavoured to prejudice the King against her. The Earl had indeed done so, fearing he should have any serious Designs upon her; for as yet the King's Promise of Marriage was kept an inviolable Secret.

It was now become necessary, as Edward every Day grew more infatuated with the fair Widow, to get rid of so troublesome a Monitor, and so powerful an Enemy

as the Earl, who was secured by his great Consequence from any Punishment. An Opportunity soon offered; for the Friends of the House of York wishing the King to secure his Throne, both by the Prospect of Issue, and by foreign Alliances, urged him to make Choice of some neighbouring Princess for his Queen. A Match with the Princess Bona of Savoy, Sister to the Queen of France, was esteemed the most eligible. The Earl of Warwick, who had the Good both of Edward and the Kingdom much at Heart, pointed out to him the Advantages that would arise from an Union with France. He chiefly urged that by making Louis his Friend
and

and Ally, he would hinder him from affording any Supplies to Margaret, the great Enemy of the House of York; whose Courage and Resolution was proportioned to her desperate Measures, and whose Hopes, it was well known, were not entirely depressed, as she was always soliciting the King of France for Assistance; which if he should afford her, would enable her to disturb his Repose, and make the Nation once more a Scene of Bloodshed and Confusion. His Arguments were allowed by Edward to be forcible; but Passion triumphed over Reason and Prudence. He however thought it necessary to dissemble; and yielding to the Reasons offered by

Lord Warwick, desired he would undertake himself a Negotiation of so much Consequence. The Earl gladly accepted the Commission, at once to gratify his patriotic Wishes, and to detach the King from a Lady whose Alliance must prove detrimental to his Honour and Interest.

THOUGH it appears improbable, that Edward, knowing the great Power of Lord Warwick, and the Certainty of drawing it upon himself, by thus employing him in a deceitful Treaty, at the Time his Resolutions were taken not to fulfil it, yet if we consider the Character of this King, the Improbability will seem less. His
natural

natural Boldness rendered him unapprehensive of Danger; and though he was capable of surprising Activity on great Occasions, he was less fitted to prevent Ills by wise Precautions, than to remedy them after they took Place, by his Vigour and Enterprize. Pleasure engaged his whole Attention, and made him careless about the Consequences that often attended the Indulgence of it. His Intrigues with the Wives of his Subjects created him many Enemies, and were of great Diservice to him in the future Revolutions of his Reign. It is not then incredible, that this Disposition should urge him to remove so capital an Obstruction to his present

sent Attachment, though he was almost certain the Issue would be disagreeable and troublesome.

'Tis impossible to describe the Feelings of the Countess of Devonshire when the News of her Lord's Death reached her. How uncommonly delicate her Situation! She wept at the same Time both for her Husband and her Lover. Whilst she mourned the Loss of the former, which her Duty and natural Tenderneſs enabled her to do with Sincerity, notwithstanding his late morose Behaviour had obliterated all her Affection, she found her Grief augmented when she remembered that he fell by the Hand of him
who

who was most dear to her. The fatal Ascendency the Earl had acquired over her Heart, sometimes made her forget for a Moment that he had been the Enemy of her Husband and her Family ; but calling her wonted Prudence to her Aid, she resolved to banish him for ever from her Breast, and never more to behold the Man that had thus, by his unwarrantable Passion, robbed her of her Reputation and Tranquility. The better to put these Resolutions in Practice, and to avoid the Earl's Solicitations, she retired to a Convent to pass the customary Time of Mourning.

LORD Warwick had no sooner consented to undertake the Negotiation

ciation for the King's Marriage, than the Dread of a long Separation from his beloved Countess instantly occurred to him. The temporary Amusement he had entered into, could not drive from his Bosom the Image of that amiable Lady. His Love, that had for a Time been restrained, but not subdued, like the rolling Torrent, whose Force no Mounds can withstand, returned with Impetuosity, and overwhelmed every other Idea. The Attempt that had lately been made to carry his Mistress off, convinced him that he had some other Rival besides the King; and as with Lovers a bare Possibility is sometimes a substantial Proof, he endeavoured to

to persuade himself, that the severe Answer he had received to his Letter, was produced by Impositions and false Suggestions. He therefore had no sooner given way to these Reflections, than he wished to convince the Countess that he did not deserve her Severity; as he was neither concerned in the Scheme to convey her away, nor would his Honour permit him to overlook the public Insult he had received from Lord Devonshire.

HE had made several Efforts to see her; but during the first Impulses of her Anger, she would neither suffer him to visit her, or receive any of his Letters. However, just before he set out for France,

France, he sent his faithful Berincour to the Convent to make another Trial; who at last, with many Intreaties, prevailed on the Countess to favour his Master with a few Minutes Conversation at the Grate. How frail is the Heart that has once permitted the dissolvent Power of Love to enervate it! How vain are its Intents, and how contradictory its Determinations!

THE Earl flew to the Monastery on the Wings of Impatience, where the Countess received him at first, with an Austerity that became the Dowager of the abused Lord Devonshire, but which little corresponded with the Tenderness that

that lurked in her Breast. She reproached him for having robbed her of her good Name, which she valued more than Life, and by that means destroying all her Prospects of Happiness ; but she could not restrain her Resentment when she mentioned his ungenerous Conduct in betraying their literary Intercourse. The Earl received the Accusation with Horror ; and with a Warmth that spoke his Sincerity, vindicated himself from an Action so unbecoming his noble Sentiments. In the Explanation that consequently ensued, they discovered the Labyrinth in which they had wandered ; and their Mistakes being thus unfolded, Love and Tendernefs supplanted that

that Distrust and Indifference, which had lately possessed their Bosoms. They now no longer strove to suppress their Passion, but indulged the affectionate Emotions of their Hearts. Yet how unavailing these momentary Raptures? Not all the Earl's tender Solicitation could overcome the Countess's firm Resolves, or satisfy her Delicacy so far, as to accept his offered Hand; and he was obliged to depart, with the unsubstantial Consolation of knowing he was beloved.

LORD Warwick soon after set out for France, and entered Paris with a numerous and brilliant Retinue, which for Magnificence

cence had never been equalled. The Glory of this sumptuous Entry was shared by his Sister, Lady Anne, who attended him, and by the Elegance of whose Appearance the Splendor of the Day was considerably increased.

THE Earl's Negotiation succeeded to his Wishes; and Louis consented to give his Sister-in-Law to King Edward: The Treaty was fully concluded, and nothing remained but the Ratification of the Terms agreed on. But whilst his Lordship was celebrating his Success by a grand Entertainment, at which the principal French Nobility were present, he received an Account of the King's being married

ried to Lady Gray. The Resentment of so potent and haughty a Peer is better conceived than described. He could not brook so public an Affront: To be thus employed in a deceitful Negotiation, and kept a Stranger to the King's real Intentions, when, as his Friend and Supporter, he was intitled to unbounded Confidence, at once dissolved every cordial Tie, and rooted from his Breast every Particle of Affection and Esteem. Edward's Rivalship in his Passion for Lady Devonshire, as it proceeded from a natural amorous Disposition, he could have guarded against, and forgiven; but this concerted Deception cancelled every Obligation, and fixed him
his

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his Foe. Listening only to the Suggestions of his Fury, his Lordship determined immediately to renounce his Allegiance to this ungrateful Monarch ; but in his cooler Moments, more attentive to the Dictates of Prudence, he resolved to encounter the King with his own Weapon Diffimulation, and wait for the first favourable Opportunity to satisfy his Vengeance.

THE Reception he met with from Louis, and the disappointed Princess, on breaking off the Treaty, lessened not his Rage. The King of France, who was one of the greatest Politicians of the Age, failed not to stimulate the
Earl's

Earl's Revenge against his natural Enemy. They had many Conferences on the Subject, which were kept so secret, that they did not then transpire; however it was afterwards known, that though he did not think it prudent to grant Lord Warwick any Assistance openly, yet he offered him considerable Sums, and gave him Assurances of Protection and Support. The Princess Bona could not suffer her Disgrace in Silence: "My Lord," said she to the Earl, when he endeavoured to palliate his Master's Inconstancy, "you bear a Share
" in the Affront as well as myself;
" I knew too well the fickle Dis-
" position of your King to place
" any Dependence on it, had not
" the

“ the Proposal been made me by
 “ Lord Warwick, whose Veracity
 “ has been hitherto unimpeached,
 “ and his Honour unstained : For-
 “ get not therefore my Lord our
 “ mutual Wrongs.” His Lord-
 ship needed not these Excite-
 ments, his own Injuries sufficiently
 urged him on ; but he smothered
 his Resentment that it might
 blaze the fiercer when the Times
 should be more favourable to his
 dire Intents.

ONE would imagine that such
 lively Emotions would have led
 him to an Union with Queen
 Margaret, who was then at the
 same Court ; but that rooted Inve-
 teracy which subsisted between
 VOL. II. K them,

them, prevented any Advances on the Earl's Part. That Princess, who cared not by what Means she accomplished her grand Designs, and would have effected her Restoration to the English Throne by the Assistance of her greatest Enemy, had no other Way been open to her, resolved to tempt his haughty Temper with Proposals suited to the present Conjuncture of Affairs. She accordingly sent the Duke of Somers^{et}, who accompanied her in her Exile, to endeavour to renew her Friendship with Lady Anne, the Earl's Sister. That Lady, who was Placability and Good-nature itself, pleased with the Queen's making the first Advances, and forgetting every Cause of

of

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of Animosity between them, gave the Duke a favourable Opportunity of communicating his Thoughts: But on receiving his Overtures she acknowledged, that though her Brother was greatly exasperated with Edward, she knew the Situation of his Mind with regard to Margaret too well, to think they would have any Weight with him at present. However, she was so far affected by the Earl's Wrongs, and so ready to embrace any Offer that carried with it a Probability of revenging them, that she did not entirely reject the Duke's Proposals, and only desired Time to make her Brother relish them, whilst

K 2

they

they were on their Journey to London.

IN the mean Time the Marriage between Edward and Elizabeth was celebrated in London with great Pomp. To give his Queen the greater consequence, and to make her appear in the Eyes of the People more worthy of the Throne to which he had raised her, the King wrote to the Duke of Burgundy, desiring he would send over some of her nearest Relations to grace her Nuptials. The Duke, who was pleased to find that Edward's Alliance with his Enemy the King of France did not take Place, readily accepted the Commission, and sent to Eng-
land

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land the Count de St. Pol, the fair Widow's Uncle, attended by several other Lords, who were related to her, and a hundred Knights most magnificently equipped. The Fame of these gallant Cavaliers, which was soon blazoned Abroad, and the Richness of their Equipages in a great Measure silenced the Clamors of those who objected to the Meanness of the Queen's Birth.

THE Earl of Warwick's Impatience to return to London was too great, and the Part he had acted in Paris too disagreeable, to stay where his Presence was become no longer necessary; he accordingly set out for England,

K 3 brooding

brooding over his Wrongs, and meditating Revenge. Lady Anne, during their Voyage, acquainted him with the Hints she had received of Margaret's Readiness to assist him in any Plan of Redress; but his Mind, in its present State of Perturbation, was not able to reduce his Designs to any regular System; and therefore he declined coming to an Explanation on the Subject, though he had a high Opinion of his Sister's political Abilities.

WHEN Friendship is reversed, and turned to Enmity, the latter is generally as extreme as the former was fervent. A striking Confirmation of this Assertion lies
before

before us ; for the King, disgusted at finding himself supplanted by Lord Warwick in the Countess of Devonshire's Favour, displeased by the Obstructions he met with from him relating to his Marriage, and hurt by a Sense of the Injury he had done him in the pretended Negociation, listened to the Insinuations of Lady Gray (now his Queen), and became his deadly Foe. All these Motives conspired to break the Chains of Friendship that had so long bound Edward and Warwick together : So firm and durable these Bonds once appeared, that the World pronounced them indissoluble, and wondered when they saw them rent asunder. But

the Philosopher, experienced in the Vicissitudes of human Events, views such sudden Dissolutions of the most intimate Connections without Surprise or Amazement. The same constant Fluctuation that attends the Seasons, and all the Appendages of the Globe we inhabit, affects the Heart of Man; making it a Prey by Turns to different Passions. The well regulated Mind alone can boast of any Degree of Consistency; and that (sad Truth) too often late in Life, the Product of long Experience, and unnumbered Cares.

WHEN Lord Warwick arrived in England, he heard that the public Rejoicings on Account of
the

the royal Nuptials still continued; he therefore turned aside, and went privately to his Seat at Chelsea, to hide his Dissatisfaction. There he found his Brother, the Marquis of Montague, into whose friendly Bosom he poured his Complaints.

FINDING, the next Day, that a grand Tournament was to be held, in which her Majesty's Knights were to maintain the Superiority of her Beauty against every Opposer, inspired by that Hatred which he so justly bore her, he determined to go in Disguise, and endeavour to prevent her Champions from carrying off the Prize. However worthy of

Ridicule this now appears, since Chivalry, and that romantic Love we can form no Idea of, its Concomitant, are out of Fashion, yet it then constituted the chief Amusement of the Times, and was celebrated with the greatest Solemnity. Nor lived there a Knight, who would not sooner part with his Liberty or Life, than give up the Superiority of his Mistress's Beauty. He held it as sacred as the Tenets of his Religion; and though some more fortunate Cavalier carried off the Prize, yet his Devotion to his imaginary Goddess was not lessened; he left the Barrier conquered but not convinced.

THE

. THE Marquis, who entered into his Brother's Repentments, and had the same dislike to the Queen, offered to accompany him. They accordingly put on black Armour, which at once shewed their discontent, and prevented their being known; as it was not yet prudent openly to declare their Hatred, and set their Adversaries publicly at Defiance. The Earl caused to be painted on his Shield, an Arm extended, darting a Thunder-bolt at a Crown, with this Inscription, " Thus the Gods revenge themselves : " His Plume, his Scarfe, and the Trappings of his Horse, were dark Red, to denote his Anger. Wearing the Vizors of their Helmets down, and taking

every Precaution for their Concealment, they set off attended only by their Esquires.

JUST as the Queen, surrounded by a numerous and splendid Court, was placing herself in a Balcony covered with rich Tapestry, and Gold Tissue, they entered the Lifts. All the English Nobles had taken their Stations along the Barriers, expecting the Arrival of the Bastard of Burgundy, who had come over with the Count de Saint Pol, and who, with his young Knights, was to share in the Sports of the Day. Before the Arrival of the Burgundian Noblemen, the Earl of Warwick and his Brother, sent a Herald to bid Defiance

ance to the Queen's Knights ; offering to maintain, that neither her Majesty's Beauty, nor that of any of the Ladies that attended her, was comparable to that of the Lady they served. So disobliging a Challenge surprized and offended the whole Court ; however, the Freedom of these public Feasts being held inviolable, it was not thought proper to make Use of any forcible Methods against the Strangers, whose noble Air procured them Respect from every Beholder.

LORD Scales, the Queen's Brother, was the first that offered himself to oppose the unknown Knights ; but the King, young
and

and gallant, though he had intended to be only a Spectator, could not resist the Ardour that prompted him to answer the Defiance. Therefore waving his Royalty, he descended to the Lifts, determined to espouse the Quarrel of that Beauty he had elevated to the Throne. When he entered the Barrier the Trumpets sounded, and every Knight alighted from his Horse. It was then proclaimed, that the Conquerors should be allowed to carry off the the Pictures of the Mistresses belonging to those who were vanquished; which before the Combat were to be hung on a triumphal Arch erected for that Purpose. His Majesty deposited the
Portrait

Portrait of the Queen ; but when he saw that of the Countess of Devonshire in the Hands of his Adversary, he doubted not but it was the Earl of Warwick with whom he was about to engage. The Resemblance of the lovely Countess awakened Emotions in his Breast, that his new Engagement had not been able to extinguish ; and at the same Time he found himself animated by Resentment against the Disturber of his Happiness, and the Opposer of his Love. He therefore immediately mounted, and began a rapid Career ; but in Spite of all his Dexterity, he could not withstand the Impetuosity of his Antagonist. Three Lances were tryed, but
with

with the same Success; and Edward retired from the Enclosure glowing with Rage and Vexation.

THE Marquis, who encountered Lord Scales, came off victorious; and several other Knights who exercised their Skill against them, met with no better Fortune. Of all the Feats of Arms performed that Day, none could be set in Competition with the Atchievements of the unknown Cavaliers; the universal Acclamations of the People testifying their Superiority. They received from all the vanquished Knights their Pictures, except that of the King's; which, to shew their Dislike of the Person

son it represented, they left hanging on the Arch. This was supposed to be done out of Respect; but the Queen soon discovered that it proceeded from a different Motive; she beheld in one of the Knights with the black Armour, the Nobleman she had made her Enemy; and found in the Device on his Shield an Explanation of his Actions. She was convinced that the Conqueror of her Edward could be no other than the Earl of Warwick; but as she imagined herself now elevated above his Revenge, she took no Pains to disguise the Emotions of her Rage.

WHILST

WHILST the Bastard of Burgundy and his Companions were engaged with the English Lords, and every Eye was fixed on the Sports, the Earl and Marquis found Means to retire unobserved to Chelsea. During their Return, they held a Consultation on the proper Methods to be pursued in the present Situation of their Affairs. The Marquis advised the Earl to make his Appearance at Court, in order to remove all Suspicion of his intended Revenge, which would enable him to execute his Designs with more Certainty. To this he consented, tho' with great Reluctance, as Diffimulation was irksome to him; the Earl of Warwick was not accustomed

customed "to carry Smiles and Sunshine in his Face, when Discontent sat heavy at his Heart."

ON his Arrival in England, he had dispatched a Messenger to the Countess of Devonshire, who still resided at the Convent, desiring Permission to throw himself at her Feet ; all the Consolation he received was a Letter written in the most affectionate Stile, but which contained a Repetition of her former unkind Resolutions. As soon as the Earl found that his Hopes of obtaining the Countess were at an End, he set out for London, where, with Difficulty, he concealed his Resentment ; but, under

der Pretence of Illness, he seldom attended at Court.

EVERY Incident now tended to widen the Breach between the King and this powerful Subject. The Queen lost not any of her Influence by Marriage; she was equally solicitous to draw every Grace and Favour to her own Friends and Family, and to exclude those of the Earl, whom, since the late Tournament, she regarded as her professed Enemy. Edward, also jealous of that Power which had supported him, by his Partiality to the Queen's Kindred, endeavoured to raise up Rivals to him.

LORD

LORD Warwick still pretending to be indisposed, retired to his Castle at Middleham, which was every Night filled with his Friends and Adherents, who repaired thither with the utmost Secresy. But the most considerable Associate that his Lordship acquired to his Party, was George Duke of Clarence, the King's Brother. This Prince deemed himself no less injured than the other Grantees, by the uncontrouled Influence of the Queen and her Relations; and being naturally of a restless and unquiet Spirit, he was ready to unite in any Opposition to the King and his new Ministers. The Earl missed not this favourable Opportunity of gaining so
Power-

powerful an Assistant ; he offered him his eldest Daughter, the Co-heiress of his immense Fortunes, in Marriage: A Settlement, which, as it was superior to any that the King himself could confer upon him, immediately attached the Duke to his Interest. The Nuptials were accordingly soon after celebrated at Calais, of which Place Lord Warwick still continued Governor.

WHILST they resided there, some Disturbances happened in the North, which were supposed to have been fomented by the Earl's Partizans ; but neither himself or his Brother appeared publicly to support them. Lord Warwick
and

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and the Duke of Clarence being returned from Calais, they retired again to Middleham, where the Earl employed his melancholy Hours in lamenting his hopeless Love, and in making Preparations for putting his Revenge against Edward in Execution.

HE had intrusted Sir Robert Wells, Son of Lord Wells, to levy Forces in Lincolnshire, throughout which County that Lord had great Credit. This young Knight's Zeal made him execute his Commission so happily, that in a few Days he was at the Head of a considerable Army. Lord Warwick, on his Part, took the necessary Steps to support him; but
whilst

whilst he was on his March for that Purpose, his well-formed Plans were frustrated by Sir Robert's Imprudence. Lord Wells himself, far from giving Countenance to his Son, had fled into a Sanctuary, in order to secure his Person against the King's Anger or Suspicions. But vain were the Precautions he took; for Edward, having as yet but very few Forces, was induced by Rage at seeing his Enemies bent on his Ruin, to commit an Action as cruel as it was unjust: He revenged himself on young Wells by beheading his Father, a venerable old Nobleman, who was drawn from his Retreat by a Promise of Safety, and came to Court, relying on the King's Assurances.

This

This Instance of Barbarity, nevertheless, turned to Edward's present Advantage, by the imprudent Rage into which it threw the Son, who kept no Measures in seeking to revenge his Father. Instead of waiting for the Earl of Warwick, or endeavouring to join him, he rashly advanced towards the King's Army, which had been the Day before augmented by some Forces that Lord Hastings had raised. Edward, who sought for his Enemy in order to prevent his joining the Earl, which he naturally supposed Sir Robert would do, met him near Stamford. The Engagement was long and bloody; but though Sir Robert performed Prodigies of Valour, he was not

so happy as to find the Death he sought for with his Sword in his Hand ; for after having seen Ten Thousand of his Men fall around him, he was taken Prisoner and beheaded.

THIS unexpected Defeat of his Associate, disconcerted all Lord Warwick's Measures ; and he retired into Lancashire, where he hoped to be joined by Lord Stanley, who had married one of his Sisters : But that Nobleman declining all Concurrence with him, he was obliged to dissolve his Army, and fly with Precipitation into Devonshire, in his Way to Calais, as the King offered, by Proclamation, a Reward of One
Thousand

Thousand Pounds, or One Hundred Pounds a Year in Land, to any that would seize him.

HE could not, however, leave England without endeavouring to persuade his lovely Countess to accompany him, and share his Fortunes. Innumerable Apprehensions for her Safety, when she should be left unprotected, filled his Mind. He knew that he had every Thing to fear from Edward, who now found in his Revenge another Inducement to renew his Solicitations, and disturb her Repose. The King's Passion for the Queen being in some Degree diminished, for his inconstant Heart could not long remain fixed on

one Object, he found his Regard for the Countess return with redoubled Violence; and as at the same Time he was convinced that he should wound the Earl of Warwick in the tenderest Part, by renewing his Addresses to her, he resolved to find her out, and leave no Method to succeed unattempted.

THE Disturbances that had lately happened, had obliged the Countess to change the Place of her Retirement; but Berincour, through the Information of Albina, gained Access to her. He acquainted her of his Master's ill Success, which obliged him to fly to Calais, with the Duke and
Duchess

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Duchess of Clarence, and the rest of his Family. He conjured her in the Earl's Name to permit him to conduct her thither, where only she could be safe from the Arts and Attempts of the King; and which Step alone would enable his Lordship to enjoy the least Tranquility. Lady Devonshire severely felt the Misfortunes of her Lover, and declared her Affection for him in the most expressive Terms, but Delicacy forbid her to follow him. "Tell him, however," said she to Berincour, "that I will endeavour to secure myself from the Machinations of Edward, and preserve my Heart pure and untainted for my Warwick—

L 3

" 'tis

“ ’tis all I can give him ; for our
“ cruel Stars oppose our Union.”

THIS Answer, which Berincour delivered to his Master, whilst he waited at Exmouth ready to embark, drove him almost to Distraction ; and he would have returned to rescue her by Force from the Power of his Rival, had he not been withheld by the Consideration that the Safety of his whole Family depended on his Expedition. He therefore went on board, and set sail for Calais : But what was his Surprize, when he arrived off the Harbour, to find the Guns on the Ramparts fired at him ? The Deputy-Governor, whom Lord Warwick

Warwick had left in the Place, was one Vauclere, a Gascon, who seeing the Earl return in this unfortunate Condition, refused him Admittance. 'Tis easy to guess the Inquietude and Indignation this Action raised in the Breast of the noble Warwick, who could not expect such Treatment from a Man that lay under the greatest Obligations to him. To encrease his Misfortunes, the Duchess of Clarence, frightened at the Danger she saw herself exposed to, was delivered on Shipboard of a Son *, at a Time when they

L 4 wanted

* This Prince, Edward Plantagenet, afterwards created Earl of Warwick, was as unfortunate in his Life, as he was distressed at

wanted even Necessaries for his Subsistence.

THE Rage the Earl felt at being treated so unworthily, would have made him engage in some extravagant Enterprize, had it not been for the Situation of his Daughter; but her Condition rendering it absolutely necessary for him

his Birth: For being, after the Death of Edward and his Sons, the true Heir to the House of York, his Uncle Richard kept him in a Kind of Confinement, at Hutton in Yorkshire. On the Accession of Henry the Seventh, he was removed to the Tower where he underwent a long Imprisonment, through the Jealousy of that King, who was always apprehensive of having his Title to the Throne disputed. At last this unhappy Prince, the only remaining Male of the Line of Plantagenet, was beheaded by Henry's Order.

him to moderate his Resentment, he was forced to stifle his Complaints, and to make Use of Submissions and Entreaties to prevail on Vauclere to send him such Supplies as were necessary for the Ducheſs.

ALL the Assistance he could obtain, conſiſted only of Two Flaggons of Wine. However, the Governor employed a Perſon in whom he could conſide, to carry his trivial Preſent; who apologized to the Earl for this Appearance of Infidelity, and repreſented it as proceeding entirely from a Zeal for his Service. He informed him, that the Place was ill ſupplied with Proviſions—that

he could not depend on the Attachment of the Garrison—that the Inhabitants, who lived by their Commerce with England, would certainly declare for the established Government—that the Town was at present unable to resist the joint Power of Edward, and the Duke of Burgundy, who were now in Alliance—and that by seeming to declare for the King, he should acquire his Confidence, and have it in his Power to restore the Fortress to its ancient Master, when it should become safe and prudent. These Reasons Lord Warwick was obliged to appear satisfied with, though the Decèit of Vauclere could not escape his Penetration.

He

He plainly saw that his Deputy, being a Man of Sagacity, and well acquainted with the Revolutions to which England was subject, only wished to temporize, and carry it fair to both Parties. In this he succeeded; for Edward was so charmed with these Appearances of Attachment, that he immediately bestowed on him the Government of the Place he had thus preserved for him; and the Duke of Burgundy, not less sensible of his Zeal, settled on him an annual Pension of a Thousand Crowns.

THE Earl of Warwick finding further Attempts to land would be fruitless, determined to seek for

Shelter in France. The Assurances he had received from Louis, when the mutual Affront given by Edward's Marriage had united them to revenge the Insult, made him not doubt of a favourable Reception at the French Court. He accordingly sailed away for that Coast; but his Vessel being small, he had no sooner put again to Sea, than a Gale of Wind brought it in Danger of sinking. The Fears of the Duchess would have obliged him to gain, without further Consideration, the nearest Shore, had he not perceived a French Vessel, whose Bulk rendered it more capable of resisting the Storm, and which appeared to sail, as well as himself, towards the Coast of France.

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France. He was forced by the Cries of his Daughters, which the Intrepidity and Composure of Lady Anne (who having often gone through Dangers was inured to them) could not pacify, to use his utmost Endeavours to come up with her. Being informed that she was bound to Dieppe, he desired the Captain to receive three Ladies, who were his two Daughters and his Sister. Fearing as much to sully his Glory by appearing terrified at a Danger that had frightened the Women, as to run any Hazard by rashly confiding in a Stranger, he resolved, in Conjunction with the Duke of Clarence, to finish his Voyage in the same Vessel.

IN

IN this Ship, by one of those strange Caprices of Fortune, which imperceptibly bring about unthought of Events, was Queen Margaret, who having been in Disguise to England, pursuing the Plan that employed all her Attention, was now on her Return to France, attended by the Duke of Exeter, and some other Lords, who still adhered to that unfortunate Princess. Their Hatred to the Earl of Warwick made them avoid being seen, when they perceived him talking to the Captain about taking the Ladies into his Ship; but a Sensation of natural Compassion not permitting the Queen to refuse the Duchess of Clarence in her present Situation,

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tion, she consented to the Captain's receiving her and her Companions.

LADY Anne no sooner heard that Margaret was near her, than, forgetting her Animosity, and recollecting only the Advances that had formerly been made by the Queen through the Duke of Somerset, towards a Reconciliation, she desired Leave to pay her Respects to her. Margaret, with a Diffimulation natural to her, received Lady Anne graciously, and during the Voyage, behaved with great Condescension and Civility to the whole Party.

It

It was, doubtless, in some of the Conversations that passed between these Ladies, that a Plan of the strangest kind was formed ; that of bringing about an Union between Two of the most irreconcilable Enemies. No Animosity was ever greater than that which had long prevailed between Margaret and the Earl of Warwick ; his Father had been executed by her Orders—he himself had twice reduced her Husband King Henry—had banished her—had put to Death all the most zealous Partizans of the House of Lancaster, either in the Field, or on the Scaffold—and had occasioned innumerable Ills to that unhappy Family ; yet, notwithstanding these
Obstruct-

Obstructions, which must forever banish Cordiality from their Breasts, the Exigency of their Affairs made a Reconciliation necessary.

THE Queen and her Companions happily arrived at Dieppe; and the Two Lords, who from the Lightness of their Vessel had landed some Hours before them, waited for the Ladies at the Port. But what was their Astonishment at seeing Margaret step out of the Vessel, accompanied by Lady Anne and her Niece, who appeared to press about her with great Affection and Respect, and who had even all that Air of Freedom which Joy gives to the Behaviour!

Though

Though Lord Warwick could scarcely forbear treating his avowed Enemy with Incivility, yet this was not a Time to listen to his Hatred. The Duke and Earl both offered their Hands to her, which she accepted, smiling in spite of herself at so strange a Meeting.

It was necessary for them to rest a few Days after the Fatigues of the Sea ; in which Time the Conversation took such a happy Turn, that the Queen and the Earl of Warwick not only forgot their Resentment, so far as to unite themselves by the reciprocal Ties of Interest and Friendship, but they cemented this Union by a Marriage

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Marriage between the Prince of Wales and Lady Anne, his Lordship's youngest Daughter. By this treaty the Duke of Clarence became Brother-in-law to the Prince of Wales ; and surely, there could not be a stranger Knot, than that which bound the presumptive Heir of the Crown, to the mortal Enemy of his own Family, and of his peculiar Claims. Never was a Confederacy on all Sides less natural, or more evidently the Work of Necessity ; but the Hearts of the Ambitious feel only the Influence of one Passion, to which all the others are subservient, and for the Sake of which they are commonly sacrificed. The present Interest, whatever it be, engages their whole

whole Attention, and rules with uncontrollable Power. That of the Queen as well as the Earl's, at that Time, equally consisting in the Ruin of Edward, it made them forget whatever appeared to be foreign to it, and rendered them insensible to the Dictates of their Inveteracy to each other.

KING Edward reasonably foresaw it would be easy to dissolve an Alliance composed of such discordant Parts. For this Purpose he sent over to France, a Lady of great Sagacity and Address, who belonged to the Train of the Duchess of Clarence; and who, under colour of attending her Mistress, was impowered to negotiate with

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with the Duke, and renew the Connections of that Prince with his own Family. She represented to him that he had unwarily to his own Ruin, become the Instrument of Lord Warwick's Vengeance, and had thrown himself entirely into the Hands of his most inveterate Enemies: That the mortal Injuries One Royal Family had suffered from the other, were now past all Forgiveness, and would admit of no imaginary Union; and that a Prince, who deserted his own Kindred, and joined the Murderers of his Father, left himself unprotected; not being intitled to any Pity or Regard from the Rest of Mankind, if Misfortunes inevitably fell upon him.

him. These Arguments had a proper Effect upon the Duke, who was only One and Twenty Years of Age, and easily biaſſed. He ſecretly engaged, on receiving a Promise of Forgiveness from his Brother, to deſert the Earl of Warwick, and abandon the Family of Lancaſter, when a favourable Opportunity ſhould offer.

DURING this Negotiation, Lord Warwick was ſecretly carrying on a Correſpondence of the ſame Nature with his Brothers, the Marquis of Montague, and the Archbiſhop of York, both of whom enjoyed the Confidence of Edward. The ſame Motives had the ſame Weight with theſe Noblemen,

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Noblemen, and they waited but for the projected Enterprize, to commit a similar Perfidy.

MARGARET being set out for Angiers on a Visit to her Father, the Earl of Warwick, who was obliged to give the Duchefs of Clarence Time to recover her Strength, resolved not to remain idle at Dieppe, whilst his Family made their Abode there. The new Duke of Burgundy, who had married Edward's Sister, being at War with France, did not confine himself to the Embarrassment he gave his Enemies by Land, but sent a Number of Privateers into the Channel, who spread Terror all over the Coast. The Earl, as
the

the Friends of Edward were now become his Foes, and also to make a Merit with Louis, speedily equipped Two Vessels which he found in the Port; and chusing out of the Garrison Two Hundred of the most resolute Fellows, determined to give Chace to the Flemish Squadron. In this Expedition he proved, that neither his Experience or Valour was lessened; for by his own Bravery, he set such an Example to the Frenchmen, that he taught them to conquer. Having sunk Part of the Fleet, and dispersed the rest, he sailed back to Dieppe, carrying with him a Merchantman which he had seized, laden with

with immense Wealth, returning from Italy to Flanders.

THE Earl's Family now being able to travel, he set out for Amboise, where the King of France held his Court. He had acquitted himself of the Obligation he was going to receive from the Nation, before he obtained the Favour which would have demanded his Gratitude. He could not help being pleased with the Acclamations he received from the People on his Way, for the important Service he had done the State. They had formerly, to their Cost, been Witnesses to the Effects of English Valour, but had never before seen it exerted in their Favour.

Louis was too much irritated by the Succours Edward had sent against him to the Duke of Brittany, not to seize so favourable an Opportunity of retaliating the Offence; he therefore received Lord Warwick and his Friends with peculiar Marks of Distinction, and assured him of every Assistance in his Power. The Flemish Vessel, whose Cargo amounted to Sixty Thousand Livres, a Sum at that Time very considerable, was given to his Lordship as a Reward for his Services; and in the present low State of his Fortune was a great Acquisition. Queen Margaret, and her Adherents, now joined the Earl, when the Plan of their Pro-

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Proceedings was regulated, and the necessary Supplies promised them by the King of France.

DURING their Stay at Amboise, the Marriage of the Prince of Wales with Lady Anne, the Earl's Daughter, was celebrated with great Magnificence; and what is rather uncommon in Treaties of this Kind, where the chief Motive arises from political Views, there was a sincere Affection between them. This had taken its Rise at an accidental Meeting, when Lord Warwick was last in France, though there appeared at that Time irremovable Bars to their Union.

THE Duke of Clarence could not behold this Engagement that his Father-in-law had entered into contrary to the Duke's Interest, and so opposite to the Motives that had engaged him in the Quarrel, without repining; however, he assumed a chearful Countenance, and joined in the Entertainments given on account of the Nuptials.

THOUGH Edward was always brave, and sometimes active, he had very little Foresight or Penetration: He was not sensible of the Danger that awaited him. The Duke of Burgundy often informed him of the Storm that was gathering; yet he made no suitable Preparations
against

against it. His whole Time was employed in Hunting, Feasting and Gallantry; and so secure was he become, that when he received Intelligence of Lord Warwick's intended Invasion, he said, he wished for nothing more than to see him set Foot on English Ground. But this vain Confidence in his own Prowess soon met with the Repulse it deserved.

THE Earl of Warwick, urged both by his Desire of Revenge, and his Impatience to see once more the Object of his Wishes, thought the Supplies promised him by Louis would never be compleated; however, at last he

M 3 was,

was furnished with Men, Ships, Arms, Ammunition, and Money, necessary for the Expedition. When he came down to Honfleur, he found a strong Fleet of the Duke of Burgundy's lying at the Mouth of the River, ready to intercept his Passage. He called a Council of War to consider of attacking them, and with his usual Intrepidity urged the Necessity of it, though the Enemy were superior to him; but during the Consultation there arose a furious Storm which dispersed the Duke's Fleet, and left the Seas open to him. He then immediately set Sail, accompanied by the Duke of Clarence, with the Earls of Oxford

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ford and Pembroke *, and soon landed at Dartmouth.

ON his Arrival, he ordered Proclamation to be made, wherever he marched, commanding in King Henry's Name all his Subjects that bore Arms to repair to his Standard, and assist him against Edward Duke of York, who like an Usurper with-held from him his Crown and

M 4

Patri-

* This Earl of Pembroke was Jasper Tudor, Son of Catharine Queen Dowager of Henry the Fifth, who had married Owen Tudor, a private Welch Gentleman. On the Accession of Edward, having always fought on the Side of the House of Lancaster, he was attainted, and his Title conferred on Lord Herbert, the Person mentioned before as a Lover of the Countess of Devonshire.

Patrimony. His Friends accordingly took Arms, and joined him from all Quarters, so that in very few Days his Army amounted to Sixty Thousand Men. The general Instability of the English Nation, occasioned by the late frequent Revolutions, the Popularity of Lord Warwick, and the Remains of the Lancastrian Party which was not yet extinguished, enabled that Nobleman to raise this considerable Force so suddenly. The Earl was too wise a General to lose Time when at the Head of an Army superior to his Enemy; he therefore advanced by long Marches, and encamped within three Leagues of Edward, who having been in the North to quell
an

an Insurrection, was on his Return, and lay with his Forces near Nottingham.

THE Rapidity of Lord Warwick's Progress had prevented the Duke of Clarence from executing his Plan of Treachery; and the Marquis of Montague now joined the Earl with a Reinforcement that was intended for Edward. This news, with the general Acclamations of "King Henry and a Warwick," that ran through all Parts, and reached Edward's Camp, made him distrust his own Soldiers, and call a Council of his Friends to consider what was to be done on this Emergency. The chief of these,

M 5

and.

and the Person that enjoyed most of his Confidence, was Lord Hastings; who though he had married one of the Earl of Warwick's Sisters, was yet incorruptible in his Fidelity to Edward. This Lord, and the rest of his Advisers were unanimous in their Opinion, that as the King had probably many concealed Enemies in his Camp, and his avowed Ones were so near with a superior and irresistible Force, he ought to take the only Remedy left, which was that of getting to the Sea-side, and making his Escape to Holland. Pursuant to this Resolution, Edward left his Camp in the dead of the Night, and fled with a small Party of Horse whose Affection he

he was assured of, into Lincolnshire. Lord Warwick having Advice of his Retreat, sent a Body of Light-Horse to overtake him, and followed with the Remainder of his Army. The King however got safe to Lynn, having lost all his Baggage in passing the Washes, and immediately embarked, with his Brother the Duke of Gloucester, and some other Lords, on board a Vessel that lay in the Harbour.

AFTER the many Revolutions already mentioned, this sudden and almost unaccountable One will not appear surprizing. We have lately seen the Earl of Warwick leaving the Kingdom in the same

M 6 precipitate

precipitate Manner, though but a few Days before, borne high on the Pinions of Hope, he enjoyed a pleasing Prospect of Success. Edward also, who thought himself so firmly established on the Throne, as to set his Enemies at Defiance, and even to wish for their Arrival, without waiting the Event of a Battle, hastily leaves his Friends and Dependants to the Mercy of the Conqueror, and with a few Favourites takes his Flight to a foreign Country in Search of a secure Retreat. So uncertain is Success; to endeavour to deserve it is the utmost Power of Man. So unsteady also is that Crown which has been obtained by Force; and is not fixed firmly on the
Head

Head by Moderation, Equity, and the Subjects Love; this alone can render it immoveable, and is the only sure Entail.

BUT Edward's Danger did not end with his Embarkation; he was but a few Leagues from the Shore, when some Easterlings, as they were then termed, or Ships belonging to the Hanse Towns which lie to the East of England, who were at War both with France and this Kingdom, gave Chace to him. They pursued him so close that he durst not offer to land but under the Cover of some Fort or Town: This obliged him to steer away for Alcmaer, a Port in North Holland, the nearest Shelter.

Shelter. Here, with Difficulty, and after a very narrow Escape from his Pursuers, he got on Shore; but in such Distress for want of Money, that the only Present he could make the Master of the Vessel which carried him, was a Robe lined with Sables; promising him a better Reward if Fortune should ever become more propitious to him. Philip de Groothuyse, then Governor of Holland, under the Duke of Burgundy, was happily at Alcmaer, and hastened to wait on a Prince who was his Master's Brother-in-law. He saw the Reward Edward had been obliged to give the Captain, and needed no further Explanation to render him sensible of his Wants;

Wants ; he therefore furnished him with all Kind of Accommodations, which enabled him to reach the Court of Charles.

IN this Manner did Edward lose his Crown, and quit his Kingdom without striking a Stroke, in eleven Days after the Earl of Warwick's landing ; saving himself amongst Strangers without any Train or Equipage, destitute of Money, and every Kind of Apparel, except his military Habit.

WHEN the Marquis of Montague, joined his Brother, they retired to his Tent, and entered into a Consultation on the Measures necessary to be pursued. But the
Earl's

Earl's first Enquiries were after his beloved Countess, whose dear Idea had never forsaken him during his long Absence. The Marquis informed him, that soon after his Departure, Edward not being able to conquer his Passion for that Lady, had discovered her Retirement, and had paid her a Visit, but without being able to gain any Advantage over her Virtue. To avoid his future Solicitations, for the King, enraged at his continual Repulses, had threatened her with a Repetition of them, the Countess had removed with Lord Stanley her Brother, and his Lady to their Seat near Nottingham; under whose Protection

on, he believed, she still remained.

LORD Warwick enraptured to find the Possessor of his Heart so near him, immediately dispatched Berincour to pay his Respects to her; but he was greatly disappointed, when he found on his Attendant's Return, that Lord Stanley's Family, intimidated by the Approach of the Armies, had gone a few Days before for London. Listening only to the Dictates of his Passion, he was on the Point of setting out in Pursuit of them; but the Consideration, that he might fall in with some straggling Parties of Edward's Troops, who, were not yet entirely

tirely dispersed, and thereby endanger his Liberty, induced him to lay aside this Resolution. However he instantly sent away his trusty Esquire after Lady Devonshire, with a Letter, wherein he acquainted her, that having driven Edward from the Throne, his Determination, whether to mount it himself, or restore it to Henry, depended entirely on her Consent to share it with him.

IF we consider the great Power, and excessive Popularity of the Earl of Warwick, we shall not esteem his Offer of the Crown a Bravado. Edward was fled from the Kingdom, and his Adherents dispersed; the House of Lancaster
with

with whom he had so lately entered into Engagements, were unable, without his Assistance, to assert their Pretensions; so that he had no Opponent who could dispute his Title to it, provided it was given him by the free Consent of the People, which there was the greatest Probability of procuring. 'Tis true, he must by assuming it, break the Covenant he had just signed with Margaret : But are Treaties, though ratified in the most solemn Manner, ever held sacred any longer than they prove convenient ? “ At Lovers Perjuries, they say, Jove laughs :” With much more Truth might Shakespear have said the same of the

the Perfidy of Princes, when indulging his pointed Irony.

BERINCOUR overtook the Countess of Devonshire before she reached London: The Trepidation she appeared in, at the Sight of the well-known Messenger, spoke plainly, that the Person to whom he belonged was not indifferent to her. After reading the Letter she turned to Berincour, and with a fine Blush, that spread itself over her lovely Face, thus addressed him. “ Tell your Lord,
“ that I have much more Tender-
“ derness than Ambition; I am
“ sensible of his great Deserts,
“ and I have Reason to believe he
“ loves me; I, on my Part, pre-
“ serve

“ serve the most sincere Affection
“ for him ; what ought he to re-
“ quire more of me ? How can
“ I become the Wife of that Man
“ who deprived the Earl of De-
“ vonshire of his Life ? Could he
“ prevail on my complying Heart,
“ it would, at the same Time rob
“ me of his Esteem, and throw a
“ Blemish on my Fame that Time
“ could never erase. A Dia-
“ dem cannot bribe me from my
“ Duty ; but I shall ever glory in
“ his Friendship.” Unintelligible
as such Language may appear to
many of the dissipated Females of
this Age, yet it was the Language
of the Times ; and recommended
our fair Ancestors more to their ro-
mantic Lovers, than their present
lively

lively Intrepidity would have done. A happy Medium between the Prudery of the Ladies of that Century, and the Coquetry of the present, composed of Modesty, Ease, Affability, Politeness, and unaffected Dignity, constitutes the true Bon Ton.

ALL the Arguments that Berincour could urge, to inspire her with more favourable Sentiments, proved fruitless; he was therefore obliged to return with this unsatisfactory Answer to the Earl; who had no sooner received it, than all his ambitious Views, and Wishes after Royalty were in a Moment dissipated. He gave immediate Orders for the March of
his

his Army to London; and when he arrived, delivered Henry from the Prison into which he had some Years before thrown him. As he had then taken from him the Name of King, calling him Traytor, so he now restored him the Title, crying before him "Long live King Henry." Edward was in his Turn, declared an Usurper; whilst many of his Adherents were attainted of high Treason, and their Estates confiscated.

THE Treaty with Margaret was now fully executed. Henry was recognized for lawful King, but his Incapacity for Government being avowed, the Regency was intrusted to Lord Warwick and the

the Duke of Clarence, during the Minority of Prince Edward; and in Default of that Prince's Issue, Clarence was declared Successor to the Crown. Margaret and her Son Edward, on receiving Intelligence of the Earl of Warwick's Success, made Preparations for their Voyage; but were prevented, by contrary Winds, from reaching England, till a new Revolution in that Kingdom, no less sudden and surprizing than the former, threw them into greater Trouble, than that from which they had just emerged.

EDWARD's Queen, who had not been able to attend the King her Husband in his Flight, retired

tired to the Tower for her greater Security; and some faithful Servants, who composed her Court, were of Opinion that she ought not to quit this Retreat. But she knew the Earl of Warwick was not to be resisted by Force; she placed her whole Confidence in the Generosity of her Conqueror, and relying on the Weakness of her Sex, chose to leave the Tower, and take Refuge in Westminster Abbey. Scarcely was she arrived there, when she was delivered of her eldest Son Edward; who succeeded, whilst yet a Child, to his Father's Throne, but soon fell a Victim to the insatiate Ambition of his Uncle the Duke of Gloucester. Lord Warwick, ever

noble and generous, and above wreaking his Vengeance on a weak Woman, forgetting the Disservices that she had once done him, and the Animosity that had long reigned between them, sent to offer her every Consolation, and gave her Assurances of his Protection ; but she could not be prevailed on to quit her Asylum, till called again to the Throne by the King her Husband's Return.

THE Earl of Warwick, during his short Administration, which continued only Six Months, endeavoured to establish the public Tranquility, and to restore Commerce and Plenty, that had been banished

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banished from the Kingdom, by the Confusion and Inattention to Business which always attends civil Discord. Though a Prey to hopeless Love, and consumed by a secret Melancholy, he pursued the same benevolent and princely Conduct that had procured him the Esteem and Respect of the whole World. His Munificence was unbounded, and to his Tables resorted Persons of every Degree. His Daughters being now married, Lady Anne his Sister presided at all his magnificent Entertainments; where she had an Opportunity of displaying her Charms which were yet unfaded, and giving Proofs of her Taste and Politeness.

AMONG the many Persons of Distinction that shared in the Earl's Friendship and Intimacy, was the Marquis of Carnarvon; a Nobleman distinguished no less by the Goodness of his Heart, his Affability, and generous Sentiments, than by his immense Riches. He could not frequently be a Witness to the many attractive Qualifications of my Heroine, without feeling their Influence. Though he was not unacquainted with her youthful Frailties, yet he palliated them by the Consideration of those peculiar Circumstances through which they were occasioned; and placed against them, her many Virtues. Satisfied that her Errors had not
pro-

proceeded from a Depravity of Heart, and superior to any Condemnation but that of his own Mind, he boldly defied the Censures of an ill-judging World, and made her his Wife. Their Nuptials were celebrated in London with the utmost Pomp and Splendor, amidst the Acclamations of the People, who sincerely rejoiced to see the Sister of their beloved Warwick settled agreeable to her Merits. The Marquis, whose Love was not of the transient Kind, but which every Hour encreased as his Knowledge of her Worth extended, paid the strictest Attention to her Happiness, and gloried in his Choice. Lady Anne, who had given Proofs

of the Goodness of her Heart, and the Dignity of her Soul, on many trying Occasions, could not be inattentive to the Calls of Duty and Gratitude; she listened to them with Pleasure, and incessantly strove to return the Marquis's Affection with undisssembled Tendernefs, and unabating Ardour. Her natural Chearfulness, which had been so long suppressed, being again revived, she constantly studied to drive away every anxious Thought from the Bosom of her Lord, and to alleviate all his Cares. The Tranquility of her Mind lighted up anew the Vivacity that was wont to sparkle in her Eyes, and sit in the Dimples of her Cheeks; whilst

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whilst every Word and Action declared the Happiness she enjoyed since her Love and Duty became united.

As the Earl of Warwick's Regard for his Sister was proportioned to the fervent Affections of his mighty Soul, he sincerely rejoiced at her Felicity, and joined to render the Celebration of an Event that gave him so much Pleasure, grand, and expressive of the general Joy. But amidst all the Gaiety that surrounded him, Peace was a Stranger to his Breast; a destructive Arrow still rankled in his Heart, and tinctured every Enjoyment with Melancholy. He had often repeated

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his

his Solicitations to Lady Devonshire, who as often repeated her Refusals; but at the same Time accompanied them with such Expressions of Tendernefs, and such Proofs of the Violence she did her Inclinations in refusing the Man she loved with so much Sincerity, that they added Poignancy to the Repulse, and made the gilded Medicine more loathsome.

LADY Anne had often, by the Earl's Desire, visited his Mistress, and with every Argument her own Susceptibility and good Sense could furnish, combated her Delicacy; but the Countess remained immoveable: The Rules she had established for the Regulation of
her

her Conduct were to her Persian Laws, and admitted not of the least Infringement.

THE Marquis of Montague, to whom the Earl intrusted his most secret Thoughts, and poured out his Complaints, endeavoured to rouse him from this unmanly Dejection. He represented to him, how unworthy this Despondence was of that Warwick, whose Valour and Activity had raised him to an Eminence that few had ever gained; which had ranked him with the most illustrious Antients, and made his Name immortal. But fruitless were these Representations to a Mind so ill at Ease.

IN the Earl of Warwick Bravery and Delicacy were united, accompanied by Humanity and a proper Attention to religious Duties. The Custom of engaging Heaven by Vows to favour their Enterprizes, was esteemed so necessary by the great Men of those early Ages, that Lord Warwick, all-powerful and independant as he was, to conform to the Usage of the Times, and to ingratiate himself with the Priests, by whom the People were then greatly influenced, performed a Pilgrimage to the Abbey of Glastonbury. Tho' Religion was his public Pretext, yet Love had the principal Share in this Humiliation. Amidst the solemn Pomp, as he lay prostrate
at

at the holy Shrine, his first and most fervent Petition was, "Remove the Obstacles that keep me from my Love." In that Moment all meaner Things were forgotten—Success in Arms—the laurelled Brow—and the Disposal of Empires, held but a second Place in his Prayers, or in his Heart; there Love alone revelled and triumphed. But nought availed; in vain he sighed, in vain he prayed; relentless Fate dispersed his Supplications ere they had reached Heaven's Portals. Life itself now grew indifferent to him, and the Indulgence of his Melancholy became almost his sole Employ, till his Attention was called off by the Return of Edward.

ward. Then his natural Valour and Intrepidity, impatient of Restraint, broke for a Time the enfeebling Bonds of Love, and raised him once more into the Hero.

EDWARD was not inactive during his Exile, but took every Measure the Exigency of his Affairs would admit of for his Restoration. At length he received Assistance from the Duke of Burgundy, at whose Court he had taken Refuge. Impatient to revenge himself of his Enemies, and to recover his lost Authority, he made an Attempt to land on the Coast of Norfolk; but being repulsed, he sailed Northwards,
and

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and disembarked at Ravenspur in Yorkshire, where Henry the Fourth, who had deprived his Ancestors of their Right to the Throne, landed Seventy Years before. Having got Possession of the City of York by Stratagem, and considerably augmented his Army, he marched directly to London. The Earl of Warwick assembled an Army at Leicester, with an Intention of meeting, and giving Battle to his Enemy; but Edward, by taking another Road, passed him unmolested, and presented himself before the Gates of the Metropolis.

HAD he been refused Entrance
he had been totally ruined; but
there

there were many Reasons which inclined the Citizens to favour him. His numerous Friends issuing forth from the Sanctuaries to which they had fled, when he left the Kingdom, were active in his Cause. Many rich Merchants who had formerly lent him Money, saw no other Chance for their Payment but his Restoration. The City Dames, who had been liberal of their Favours to him, and who still retained an Affection for this young and gallant Prince, sway'd their Husbands and Friends in his Behalf. These, added to some other Circumstances, procur'd him a ready Admittance. Edward's Entrance into London, made him Master not only of that
rich

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rich and powerful City, but also of the Person of Henry; who, destined to be the perpetual Sport of Fortune, fell again into his Enemy's Hands.

KING Edward made but a short Stay in London, being obliged to march out of it, with all the Troops he could muster, to meet the Earl of Warwick, who was coming to drive him from it, with a powerful Army.

THE Arrival of Margaret, who was every Day expected, would have drawn together all the true Friends to the House of Lancaster, and have brought a great Addition to Lord Warwick's Forces;
but

but rather than share the Victory with his Rivals, and ancient Enemies, he determined to hazard a Battle at all Events. He was, however, unacquainted with the Treachery of some of his Friends. The Marquis of Montague his Brother, who, influenced by his natural Attachment to the House of York, had been for some Time wavering, now became steadily fixed in the Earl's Interest; but his Son-in-law the Duke of Clarence, bound by every Tie of Honour and Gratitude to him, chose rather to fulfil the secret Engagements he had made with his Brother Edward, and support the Pretensions of his own Family. Confident from
this

this Assurance, the King advanced on Easter-Eve as far as Barnet, posting himself in the Town; whilst the Earl of Warwick, who had marched that Day from St. Alban's, encamped on the Heath adjoining. In the Night the Duke of Gloucester went privately to the Duke of Clarence's Tent, and in a short Conference so confirmed his Brother's Intentions, that he carried him over to Edward, with Twelve Thousand Men.

THE Earl of Warwick was now too far advanced to retreat; and refusing with Disdain, all Terms of Peace offered him by the King, at the Intercession of Clarence, he ordered the Charge
to

to be founded. He had usually fought on Horseback, that he might the more readily give Orders where they were necessary; but the Marquis his Brother, had this Day persuaded him to fight on Foot, to shew that they were resolved either to conquer or die. Early in the Morning on Easter-Day, he attacked the King's Army with great Impetuosity, and defeated his Vanguard. Then putting himself at the Head of a Battalion of chosen Men, he penetrated to that where Edward was, who fought as bravely on his Part.

THE Victory remained long undecided, as the two Armies, in
Imitation

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Imitation of their Leaders, performed uncommon Acts of Valour; but an Accident at last determined it in Favour of the House of York. Edward's Banner was a Sun; that of Warwick a Star with Rays; The Mistiness of the Morning rendering it difficult to distinguish them, the Earl of Oxford, one of Warwick's Generals, who had wheeled round to support a Part of the right Wing, which had given way, was attacked by his own Party, and driven out of the Field. This caused a general Confusion, and turned the Balance in Favour of Edward.

LORD Warwick seeing his Men give Ground, and having in vain
endea-

endeavoured to rally them, animated by his natural Valour, and impelled by hopeless Love, which made Life indifferent to him, rushed into the Midst of his Enemies; where, after a dreadful Havock, which must have insured Success had it been properly supported, overpowered by Numbers, he fell covered with Wounds.

His Brother, Lord Montague, who fought near him, strove to revenge his Death, but in vain: He could not withstand such a Multitude of Foes. As they had been united during their Lives, in the strictest Bonds of Friendship, and had acquired together immor-

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immortal Honour, they now shared the same glorious Fate.

THE Day after this Victory, King Edward returned to London, elated with his Success. He brought King Henry back, whom he had carried for Security with him, and now sent the poor Prince in mean Attire, through the City, to the Tower, where he remained a Prisoner during the Remainder of his Life.

THE Bodies of the Earl of Warwick, and his Brother the Marquis, were by the King's Order, exposed for Two Days in St. Paul's Cathedral. Edward did this, not only to satisfy his Friends
that

that these formidable Heroes were no longer to be dreaded, but to discover whether the Sentiments of the People were in his Favour. He had, however, the Mortification to find that they lamented the Death of his Foes, with too much Sincerity, to be truly attached to his Interest. His Reign had been so sanguinary, and his Treatment of the captive Adherents to the House of Lancaster, so severe, that it greatly abated the Respect and Love, which otherwise his great warlike Qualifications, and the Dignity of his Person, would have inspired. Whilst the Bodies lay exposed, though Multitudes flocked to see them, yet, after the first Exclamations which arose from

from Surprize and Horror were abated, a general Silence (a certain Sign of Pity) was observed; except when Murmurs broke forth, which sometimes could not be restrained. These Proofs of general Esteem so displeased the King, that he shortened the Time of their Exposure, and hurried the Bodies away to Bisham Abbey, the antient Burying Place of the Neville Family.

THE Countess of Devonshire, since her last Refusal of the Earl's Hand, had led so retired a Life, that she would not admit the Visits of her nearest Relations. The Marchioness of Carnarvon, her beloved Warwick's Sister, was
alone

alone permitted to see her. The Countess had taken a House in one of the most retired Parts of London, which she had fitted up with the utmost Elegance. She had caused all the Battles of the Earl to be painted in one of the Rooms, and had decorated it besides with several Portraits of him, in different Attitudes. Here she almost constantly withdrew to indulge her Melancholy, and lament her hard Fate; incessantly praying that Heaven would crown with Success the Man who possessed her Heart, though it had forbid their Union. The Marchioness would frequently join her; and these Two most lovely Women would sometimes mingle
their

their Tears together. Her susceptible Soul shared with Sincerity in her Friend's Sorrow, and though she was settled in the Sphere her Merit deserved, and was happy in her Marriage with a worthy and accomplished Nobleman, yet she often gave up her own Tranquility to sympathize with the weeping Countess.

THE Morning of the late dreadful Battle, just before the Earl of Warwick marched to the Onset, he sent Berincour to Lady Devonshire, to assure her, that even in that important Moment, his Heart was more anxious to deserve her Love, than to gain the Victory, as the Height of his Ambition was to

lay his Laurels at her Feet; and that whatever was the Event of the Day, he could wish her not to entertain the least Doubt of his Truth and Constancy. The Countess, in Return informed him by his Confidant, that she was sensible how much he deserved her Esteem, and that she would purchase for him Peace of Mind, even at the Expence of her Life; but that the fatal Bar to their Union must for ever remain. “Alas! I fear” (continued the Countess, addressing herself to Berincour) “that any
 “ Consolation I could send him,
 “ would come too late; for my
 “ forboding Heart tells me some
 “ fatal Event is at Hand.” Berincour, unable to conquer her
 Resolves

Resolves or her Fears, departed, and soon found these Presages verified; but being obliged to have Recourse to Flight, for the Preservation of his Life, he was prevented from returning to relate to the Countess, the sad Incidents of the Day.

HER Ladyship, according to her usual Custom, went the Morning after the Battle to St. Paul's; there she had just placed herself on her Knees, and begun her first Orison, which was always for the Preservation of her Warwick, when the Bodies of the Two heroic Brothers were brought in, to be exposed agreeable to the Victor's Commands. Their Names

O 2 refounded

resounded through the Isles, and soon reached those Ears, which had hitherto been delighted with the Sound. Struck with Amazement, and bewildered in Uncertainty, the Countess mingled with the Crowd. But how shall I represent her Distraction, when she saw her Warwick's lovely Form, covered with Blood, and disfigured with Wounds. 'Till this fatal Moment, her Prudence and Modesty had enabled her to conceal the infinite Tenderneis she felt for him; but now those Passions which Reason could no longer restrain, burst forth with such Violence and Impetuosity, that her delicate Frame was unequal to the Conflict. Absorbed in Grief,

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Grief she threw herself on the mangled Corpse, and was torn with Difficulty from it. Her Attendants conveyed her to her House, but could not rescue her from the cold Hand of Death ; in a few Hours she expired, sighing out the Name of Warwick. Though cruel Fate forbid their Union whilst living, they were, however, united in the Grave ; for Lord Stanley, who loved her tenderly, and who had great Influence with Edward, prevailed on him to permit them to be inclosed in the same Tomb.

Thus untimely fell as lovely
and accomplished a Pair as Na-
ture ever formed. Warwick famed

for his graceful Person, Valour, Generosity, and every noble Quality; Lady Devonshire, for an uncommon Share of Beauty, from which few could secure their Hearts; but which was so softened by Modesty, Prudence, and Sweetness of Temper, that it equally inspired Awe and Respect, with Desire. A Delicacy (perhaps it might be termed a false Delicacy) prevented her Union with a Man that would have made her happy, and have raised her to an envied Situation; for Warwick, greater than Kings, could bestow a Crown, or snatch it from the Head on which he had placed it. But their Love was registered on one of Fate's blackest Scrolls.

THE

THE Marchioness of Carnarvon lamented her Brothers, with that Sincerity and Fervour, which a Heart accustomed to Tenderness could not fail of inspiring. But the Hand of Time by Degrees restored Tranquility to her Mind, and renewed the Enjoyment of her lately acquired Happiness. After a fluctuating Life, embittered by many disagreeable Events — sometimes disappointed in her most pleasing Expectations — now an Exile from her Country — at length the Favourite of an ambitious Queen — but never in any of these Situations, degrading the Dignity of her Mind, or acting beneath her noble Birth — she at last received the Reward

of her many Virtues, united to a Nobleman of the first Rank.

THE Tempests that had for so many Years rent the Kingdom being now blown over, and the last Ten Years of Edward's Reign comparatively peaceable, and free from civil Broils, my Heroine had Leisure to indulge the benevolent and noble Emanations of her Heart. The extensive Domains, and immense Riches of her Lord, enabled her to gratify both her Humanity and Magnificence. In Imitation of her Brother, whose expanded Heart would have given Food to the whole Kingdom, her Hospitality was unequalled. At the same Time, her

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her Taste and Elegance was conspicuous in the Embellishments of her different Mansions, her domestick Regulations, and the Grandeur of her Equipage. Her Rank gave her not greater Precedence, than her many Excellencies. Without affecting Parade, she attracted universal Admiration, and became the Criterion of Refinement. At once envied and beloved for these amiable Qualities, she lived the Ornament of the Age; till loaden with Years and Honour, she made Room for her Posterity, who succeeded to her Virtues and Dignity.

THOUGH they have no immediate Connection with the Memoirs

moirs of my Heroine, it will be necessary, for the Satisfaction of my Readers, to give a summary Account of the Catastrophes of the principal Characters that have been introduced in the preceding Work.

THE same Day the decisive Battle of Barnet was fought, Queen Margaret and her Son, now about Eighteen Years of Age, landed at Weymouth, supported by a small Body of French Forces; having been detained on the Coast of France by contrary Winds near Six Months. When this Princess received Intelligence of her Husband's Captivity, and the Defeat and Death of the Earl of Warwick,

wick, that Courage, which had supported her in so many disastrous Events, now quite forsook her. However, comforted by several potent Lords that joined her, and animated by the Firmness and Bravery of her Son, she marched through the Counties of Devon, Somerset, and Gloucester, increasing her Army in each Day's March. But at last she was overtaken by the rapid and expeditious Edward, at Tewkesbury, on the Banks of the Severne. A Retreat being now rendered impracticable, the Queen's Army, which was commanded by the Duke of Somerset, threw up Intrenchments during the Night. The Duke wanted no military
 Qua-

Qualification; but he was to defend himself against an Enemy, who had from his Infancy been bred to Arms, and who had acquired a consummate Knowledge in the Art of War. The first Glance of Edward's Eye was sure to give him a Judgment of the Weakness or Strength of his Foes; and all warlike Stratagems were familiar to him. On this Occasion he made Use of one that secured him the Victory. By a feigned Retreat, he drew his Enemies out of their Intrenchments, which probably he would not have been able to force; and whilst they were eager in the Pursuit, turned upon, and entirely defeated them. It was with
Difficulty,

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Difficulty, they prevented the Queen from throwing herself into the Midst of the Tumult, where she saw her Son fighting; but her Strength and Spirits at length failing her, she fell into a Swoon, and was removed by her Domesticks to a Monastery, a few Miles from Tewkesbury.

THE Prince of Wales, and the Duke of Somerset, for a long while defended themselves against the Duke of Gloucester, who had surrounded them with his best Troops; but after having given Proofs of Valour, that raised the Admiration of their Enemies, they were taken Prisoners with their Arms in their Hands. No sooner
was

was the Battle at an End; than Edward ordered the young Prince to be brought into his Pavilion. When he appeared, the King arose suddenly, and walking up to him, demanded in an imperious Tone, what Business he had in his Dominions? The Prince answered with a noble Pride, that he came thither to claim his just Inheritance, which he had been unlawfully deprived of. This Reply disconcerted the Conqueror, who did not expect to find such Firmness in a Youth: He looked on him for some Time without making any Answer; at last, being unable to controul his Rage, he gave him a Blow on the Face with his Gauntlet, and instantly turned his

his Back. The Dukes of Clarence and Gloucester, the Lord Hastings, and Sir Thomas Gray, who were present, taking this as a Signal from the King, rushed upon Margaret's unhappy Son, and soon dispatched him with their Poniards.

BUT all these blood-thirsty Men were repaid for their Cruelty and unmanly Behaviour to a disarmed Youth. Edward was cut off in the prime of Life by his Intemperance, or, which is more probable, by Poison administered to him by the Duke of Gloucester. Clarence, by the Instigations of the same Prince, was condemned for pretended Conspiracies against

gainst the King; who the more readily consented to his Destruction, as he had never cordially forgiven his former Connections with his Enemies; and being allowed to chuse his Death, was drowned in a Butt of Malmsey Wine. Sir Thomas Gray was also cut off by Richard; who himself, after having waded through the Blood of his Brothers—of King Henry—and of the two young Sons of Edward—to the Throne, enjoyed it but a short Time; closing a Life of continual Suspicion and Anxiety, the sure Attendants of a guilty Mind, on Bosworth Field.

THE

THE Earl of Richmond, afterwards Henry the Seventh, the only surviving Branch of the House of Lancaster, by his Marriage with Elizabeth, the Daughter of Edward, entwined the Roses, and put a Stop to those civil Discords, which had occasioned so great an Effusion of English Blood.

QUEEN Margaret, whose Ambition, by a Variety of Misfortunes, was entirely quelled, after remaining several Years a Prisoner in England, was at length ransomed by the King of France; to which Kingdom returning, she ended her Days in an obscure Retirement.

KING Henry, inured to the Gloom of a Prison, was at last released from his Confinement by the Poniard of Richard; who immediately after the Battle of Tewkesbury, hastened to the Tower, and put an End to the the Calamities of a Prince, that through his whole Life had preserved a happy Equanimity; and at the Time his Murderer pierced his Breast, was "indifferent in his Choice—to sleep or die."

F I N I S.



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